Hafa Adai!

MMA fighter allegedly kills Guam doctor after COVID vaccine spat. PAGE 2
Positive reception to in-person classes at NMC. PAGE 3

$1

Saipan Tribune

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AG asked to initiate prosecution

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Villagomez

House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) certified yesterday afternoon the Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee's statement that holds Frances Dela Cruz in contempt.

» Villagomez certifies JGO's holding of Dela Cruz in contempt

In line with this, Villagomez wrote Attorney General Edward Manibusan to formally certify and request that the Office of the Attorney General initiate prosecution.

He said the lack of respect and cooperation shown the JGO Committee Tuesday affects the dignity of the CNMI Legislature as a body and the Legislature's authority to employ compulsory process in service of its investigatory powers must be upheld.

"We cannot allow lawless flouting of the Legislature's authority to stand," Villagomez said.

Dela Cruz, who is the executive assistant to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, was cited for criminal contempt by the

See AG on Page 4

BURGLARY SUSPECTS
Donivin Chargualaf, 24, left photo, and Matthew Duenas, 30, right photo, enter the Superior Court for their bail hearings yesterday. The two were among the three men who were allegedly involved in the burglary of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC warehouse in Chalan Piao.
KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

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Vaccinations in PSS schools

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., in partnership with the CNMI Public School System, will offer school-based COVID-19 vaccinations in PSS schools.

See PSS on Page 4

TO REGISTER KIDS FOR VACCINATION:
Website: www.vaccinatecnmi.com
Phone: (670) 682-7468 (SHOT)
Walk-ins not accepted at school-based outreach

6 new positive cases

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. announced Tuesday that six more individuals were confirmed positive for COVID-19 through surveillance testing on Nov. 11 and 15, bringing the CNMI's total to 399.

As of Nov. 16, there are now

See CASES on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

AT A GLANCE
As of 6:56pm, Nov. 17, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated:	84.4%
Days since last community transmission	2

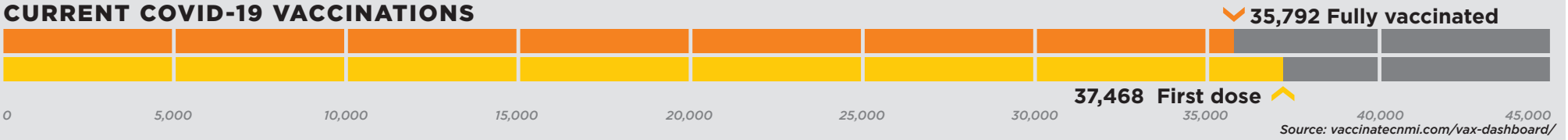
Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	32,540
Fully Vaccinated:	30,100
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,928
Fully Vaccinated:	4,752
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	940

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	18,983	32	19,015
Recovered	16,916	24	16,940
Active	1,783	32	1,815
Deaths	260	0	260

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	393	6	399
Traced via Travel Screening	264	0	264
Traced via Community Screening	129	6	135
Deaths	3	0	3

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Christmas in the Marianas returns on Dec. 10-11

The Marianas Visitors Authority, in collaboration with PDM Promoters and Team PDI, will bring back its annual Christmas in the Marianas signature event on Dec. 10-11, 2021.

This year's celebration will be held at Garapan Fishing Base to accommodate social distancing.

Due to school closures, the only competitions this year will be a Christmas Tree decorating competition, a mini-Christmas Village competition, and a costume contest for elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools.

"School representatives were very supportive of the return of Christmas in the Marianas this year, but in consideration of the shutdown of schools, we are not going to be able to do the Christmas Parade of Floats or most of our regular contests," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "Nonetheless, Christmas in the Marianas will return this year to spread Christmas cheer. COVID-19 protocols will be enforced, including mandatory temperature checks, mask-wearing, and social distancing."

The celebration features holiday entertainment, including Christmas caroling, for visitors and residents. Food and drinks will also be sold. A mini Christmas Village competition for businesses, nonprofit organizations, and MVA members will also be held.

"The Marianas has gone through many challenges, especially in the last five years. As we come to the end of year 2021, we're looking forward to the return of another popular MVA signature event," said MVA managing director Priscilla Maratita Iakopo. "Christmas in the Marianas is one of the best ways to embrace the Christmas spirit of joy, spread holiday cheers, and give the light of love. As always, we will coordinate closely with the [Governor's COVID-19] Task Force and [Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.] and follow their advice on what activities and guidelines can be safely conducted as we work toward reviving tourism and our signature events."

Schools that have already signed up to participate are Oleai, Koblerville, Gregorio T. Camacho, Kagman, William S Reyes, and San Vicente elementary schools; Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Jr., Dandan, and Chacha Ocean View middle schools; Saipan Southern and Marianas high schools; Saipan International School, Saipan Community School, Northern Marianas International School, and Brilliant Star School.

For more information, contact lead event coordinator and MVA Community Projects specialist Jack Aranda at jaranda@mymarianas.com or 664-3200/1. ***(PR)***

Russian MMA fighter charged in Guam for killing doctor during COVID vaccine spat

A professional Russian mixed martial arts fighter has been arrested on the U.S. territory of Guam for allegedly killing a doctor during a dispute over COVID-19 vaccines.

Akmal Khozhiev, 27, who called himself the "Unvaccinated Assassin" in social media posts, has been charged with aggravated murder and aggravated assault after stabbing Dr. Miran Rabiti with a knife and a bone, according to multiple reports from local media.

Khozhiev and Ribati, a radiologist at Guam Memorial Hospital, knew each other from a gym where the fighter had worked as a trainer before being fired three months ago for what the owner described as erratic behavior, *Pacific Daily News* reported.

The killing, which occurred on Nov. 7, reportedly unfolded after Khozhiev and Rabiti got into an argument about COVID-19 vaccines while eating dinner together.

During the argument, Khozhiev began to choke Rabiti before two women tried to intervene.

Khozhiev then took an animal bone from a meal they had shared together and began stabbing Ribati in the neck multiple times, according to charging documents.

When Ribati tried to leave the apartment, Khozhiev allegedly stabbed him in the neck with a knife, court documents state.

Guam police responded to the incident and found Khozhiev covered in blood.

"I killed him," Khozhiev reportedly told police.

Khozhiev is due to appear in court again on Nov. 17. ***(https://www.rferl.org)***

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Positive reax to in-person classes at NMC

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The reception to returning to in-person classes at the Northern Marianas College has been very positive so far, said NMC president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero on Monday.

NMC resumed in-person classes last week, Nov. 8 to 12, after closing for 10 days in accordance with an Oct. 29 directive by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres that closed in-person classes at all schools in the CNMI after the recent discovery of community cases of COVID-19.

Even with the resumption of in-person classes last week, Deleon Guerrero said the college still exercised some flexibility, citing the possible unease felt by some students and employees and the unmet childcare needs of others.

"The reception has been very positive. Last week we exercised flexibility because we understand that some students and employees may still be a little uneasy, and also we have students and employees whose children are enrolled in [the Public School System] and may have childcare issues. So last week we were very flexible in terms of allowing some instructors to keep their face-to-face classes online and allowing some employees to telework," said Deleon Guerrero.

The goal this week is to fully transition back to in-person classes, according to Deleon Guerrero, but telework may continue for some instructors who continue to have unmet childcare needs.

"This week we are trying to fully transition back to face-to-face classes. It's only Day 1, but from what I understand, face-to-face classes are continuing...and [for] a few employees we are continuing to extend that flexibility because of the announcement from PSS that they're going to reopen [in-person classes] on the 29th," said Deleon Guerrero.

He added that the NMC community has not been linked to any community cases since reopening, but assured that even in the event of a case at the college, it has the mitigation protocols necessary to keep all at NMC safe.

"It's going very smoothly. We haven't heard of any positive cases involving the NMC community, but even if we do we're very confident in our mitigation protocols, we're very confident in the fact that all students that are attending face-to-face classes are vaccinated, and we're very confident that over 90% of employees are already vaccinated, and we're on track to reaching 100%," he said.

Deleon Guerrero also clarified that online learning still exists as an option for NMC students and that more than half of NMC's courses are online.

Torres: NMI has no control over opening of borders, but has control over vaccinations

The CNMI has no control over the reopening of its borders to international airlines, but it has control over getting everyone on the islands be vaccinated, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

In response to a question during his Friday radio press briefing, Torres said that President Joe Biden's directive lifting some restrictions for foreign travelers from 33 countries who are fully vaccinated applies across the nation, so it's the CNMI's obligation to fulfill that mandate. One of the sticking factors of that directive, though, is for foreign travelers to be fully vaccinated.

"That's a very big point because we can't stop airlines from coming in," Torres said.

He said they want to be accommodating and welcome the CNMI's business partners that are bringing in tourists but, at the same time, Torres underscored the importance of doing what the CNMI can do to safeguard its community.

He said that when Biden issued the directive, the CNMI needs to follow it as much as it can and work on implementing additional safeguards for the community.

Torres said the community needs to understand that COVID-19 is going to be here and that the CNMI is mandated to open up its borders.

"Those are the things that we don't have control over. What our control is to get our kids vaccinated. The control is to get each and every one on these islands vaccinated," he said.

Torres said control means the government and the people can tell their family members, friends, neighbors, business partners about the need to get vaccinated as it is to protect everybody individually.

Effective Nov. 8, 2021, all fully vaccinated travelers are now allowed to enter the United States. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Man who lied to CBP officers out on supervised release

The man who pleaded guilty to lying to U.S. Customs and Border Protection so he could enter the CNMI last month is now out on supervised release after being sentenced to time served.

At the sentencing hearing last Monday, District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Seongil Lee, also known as Nasaro Lee, to time served after pleading guilty to lying to U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the port of entry of Saipan last month.

Lee was initially supposed to undergo sentencing proceedings on Nov. 24 but his hearing was rescheduled to last Monday.

Lee, who remains out of custody, shall now submit to a term of supervised release of one year and comply with conditions as adopted by the court.

In addition, Lee must pay a special assessment fee of $100 immediately after sentencing.

Lee's passport will be surrendered to the Enforcement Removal Office by the U.S. Probation Office.

Lee was represented by court-appointed attorney Bruce Berline, while U.S. Assistant Attorney Garth Backe appeared for the federal government.

According to court documents, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement filed the criminal complaint against Lee after he presented a South Korean passport in the name of "Nasaro Lee" and lied to CBP officers at the Saipan airport last Oct. 16.

The complaint stated that Department of Homeland Security records showed that CBP denied Lee's entry into Los Angeles on April 5, 2010, based on an interview with CBP where Lee admitted to a controlled substance conviction in Japan. Lee also admitted to serving five years and eight months of imprisonment for trafficking a controlled substance into Japan.

On May 21, 2019, Lee submitted an Electronic System for Travel Authorization application through the DHS website. However, because Lee's ESTA application failed to disclose that he was a convicted felon, the application was denied.

Then, on Oct. 1, 2021, an ESTA application was submitted using the name "Nasaro Lee," that also failed to disclose Seongil Lee's prior felony conviction. The ESTA application under "Nasaro Lee" was approved on Oct. 1, 2021, and he was admitted to Saipan, according to DHS' system.

On Oct. 16, Lee presented a South Korean passport in the name of "Nasaro Lee" at the Saipan airport with a different date of birth and also presented his fingerprints to CBP.

The complaint noted that the fingerprints obtained from Seongil Lee's previous encounters and Nasaro Lee matched.

In addition, after reviewing images taken by CBP of Lee back in 2010 and comparing it to the image taken of Nasaro Lee last Oct. 16, ICE claims they are the same individual. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

PSS

From Page 1

The effort follows the approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11 years old by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Nov. 2, 2021.

The school-based outreaches are available to students and staff of PSS. Parents or legal guardians will need to register their children for vaccination by visiting www.vaccinatecnmi.com, or contacting (670) 682-7468 (SHOT). Walk-ins are not accepted at the school-based outreaches.

For families whose children do not attend a PSS school, the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center vaccination site is available to administer all three COVID-19 vaccines Monday to Saturday, 8am-4pm. Registration is highly recommended, but walk-ins are accepted at the Multi-Purpose Center vaccination site.

"School-based vaccination events have a long history and have successfully contributed to lower morbidity and mortality due to vaccine-preventable diseases," said CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña. "The school is an ideal place to reach children from all cultures, socioeconomic groups, and age groups, and is conveniently situated in communities for ease of accessibility for students, parents, and staff alike."

Acting Education commissioner Eric M. Magofna said that PSS supports this initiative and recognizes that school-based vaccination sites "provide students with a comfortable and familiar environment."

The school-based vaccination effort for students and staff will be in compliance with CDC guidelines. The community is reminded to practice the 3 W's at all times: wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance.

PSS has worked with the CHCC to finalize plans to include location, logistics, and staffing.

First dose	School	Time
Nov. 18, 2021	Koblerville Elementary School	8 a.m. – noon
	Tinian Elementary School (Tinian Health Center)	1 – 4 p.m.
Nov. 19, 2021	San Vicente Elementary School	8 a.m. – noon
Nov. 19, 2021	Tinian Junior/Senior High School (Tinian Health Center)	1 – 4 p.m.
Nov. 22, 2021	Hopwood Middle School	8 a.m. – noon
Nov. 23, 2021	Oleai Elementary School	8 a.m. – noon
Nov. 29, 2021	Kagman High School	8 a.m. – noon
	Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior/Senior High School	9 – 11 a.m.
Nov. 30, 2021	Kagman Elementary School	8 a.m. – noon
	Sinapalo Elementary School	9 – 11 a.m.
Dec. 1, 2021	Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 2, 2021	Tanapag Middle School	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 6, 2021	William S. Reyes Elementary School	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 7, 2021	Saipan Southern High School	8 a.m. – noon
	Da'ok Academy	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 9, 2021	Dandan Middle School	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 13, 2021	Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 14, 2021	Garapan Elementary School	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 15, 2021	Chacha Ocean View Middle School	8 a.m. – noon
Dec. 16, 2021	Marianas High School	8 a.m. – noon

CASES

From Page 1

49 active cases in the CNMI.

CHCC said Tuesday that the six new cases have since been isolated and are being actively monitored.

CHCC also reported that a total of 306 tests were conducted on Nov. 15 comprising travel and surveillance testing.

Since Oct. 28, there have been 108 new cases. Of the 108, 75 were identified through contact tracing, 24 through community-based testing, and nine through travel testing.

In related news, during an appearance on Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' radio news briefing last Friday, Governor's COVID-19 Task Force chair Warren F. Villagomez said the recent rise of community cases is something that "we're dealing with on a daily basis," and assured that he and the task force "haven't lowered any standards" in what they are doing to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Villagomez added that "we're ahead of the curve here in the CNMI" regarding COVID-19 prevention efforts. He highlighted the CNMI's ongoing surveillance testing and contact tracing efforts and the continued campaigning for getting vaccinated against COVID-19 and for practicing the "3 W's" (wash your hands, watch your distance, and wear a face covering).

Villagomez asked the community to continue its support of the CNMI's efforts in preventing the further spread of COVID-19 and asked those with questions and/or concerns to call the COVID-19 Infoline at 670-488-0211. "[That] is our info line, and we're here standing by to assist," said Villagomez.

AG

From Page 1

JGO after a hearing Tuesday afternoon, during which she refused to answer questions, repeatedly reading instead a statement citing her reasons for objecting to the subpoena issued her.

The JGO, chaired by Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan), is investigating Torres' expenditures of public funds and travels.

Among the reasons Dela Cruz cited in her objection was that the JGO's subpoena was dated that day, Tuesday, at 12:42pm, less than an hour before the hearing. She said the subpoena must comply with the Commonwealth Code pertaining to give enough notice to witnesses.

Dela Cruz's counsel, Viola Alepuyo, said yesterday that they are exploring their next move. "But we will respect the process," she said.

It was Rep. Richard Lizama (D-Saipan) who moved to hold Dela Cruz in contempt. All five JGO members present—Lizama, Celina Babauta (D-Saipan), Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan), Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota), and vice speaker Blas Jonathan Attao (R-Saipan)—voted "yes."

According to the law pertaining to contempt, "an investigating committee may, by majority vote of all its members, report to the legislative houses by which it was established any instance of alleged contempt."

The president or speaker shall certify a statement of the contempt under his or her signature as president or speaker, as the case may be, to the AG. The AG shall prosecute the offender in the Commonwealth trial court. The trial court refers to the Superior Court.

If the Legislature is not in session, a statement of the alleged contempt shall be certified by the chairman or acting chairman of the committee concerned, under his or her signature, to the AG who shall prosecute the offender.

An instance of alleged contempt shall be considered as though committed in or against the particular house or the Legislature itself, the statute states.

At Tuesday's JGO hearing, Babauta reminded Dela Cruz of the penalties for committing contempt. Babauta said a person guilty of contempt shall upon conviction be fined not more than $1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

In objecting to the subpoena issued her, Dela Cruz said service of a subpoena requiring the attendance of a person at a hearing of an investigating committee shall be made at least five days prior to the date of the hearing unless a shorter period of time is authorized by majority vote of all the members of the committee in a particular instance.

Dela Cruz said she objects to the subpoena because she and her employer raised testimonial immunity and executive privilege as provided under the Constitutional Separation of Powers doctrine.

She said the subpoena also exceeds the scope of legislative authority and power.

She kept repeating these in response to all questions raised by Propst, Babauta, Attao, and Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) at the hearing.

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'We're taking all precautions to ensure everyone's safety'

Between now and Nov. 29, when the CNMI Public School System plans to resume in-person classes in all public schools in the CNMI, PSS leaders are using that window to educate and communicate with PSS' stakeholders and to ensure all things are in place for schools to resume in-person classes safely, according to acting Education commissioner Eric Magofna on Monday.

This comes soon after the CNMI Board of Education voted unanimously during a virtual board meeting on Nov. 12 to schedule the resumption of in-person classes on Nov. 29.

Commenting on the board's decision, Magofna said that the BOE had a difficult decision to make, and that "they had to take into consideration all aspects."

When asked about the effects on student attendance that online learning has had since closing in-person classes on Oct. 29, Magofna said that, in his recent conversations with several school principals, it varies. In some schools, there is no spike in absences, while in others "they are noticing more absences than they would like."

Currently, Magofna said, PSS leaders are putting together all relevant data and information ahead of schools reopening on Nov. 29, and added that PSS is eyeing a collaboration with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to create and publish educational material for PSS' stakeholders on the current COVID-19 situation in the CNMI.

"Right now with the school closures [and online classes only], we're taking all this data [and compiling] everything to prepare for when we do open schools. We're also taking advantage of these two weeks to really educate our stakeholders," said Magofna.

"We're hoping to work in collaboration with CHCC and the doctors there to put out educational information to all our stakeholders to inform them of what's going on in the CNMI with regards to [COVID-19] and that we are taking the necessary precautionary measures to ensure the safety of all our stakeholders, most especially our students and our staff, when we do reopen schools on the 29th," he added.

PSS, in accordance with an Oct. 29 directive from Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, closed all schools for in-person classes following the discovery of community cases of COVID-19. ***(Joshua Santos)***

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Kilili: Biden extends anew zero local match for FEMA COVID-19 funding

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said over the weekend that the Marianas and other states and territories will continue to receive Federal Emergency Management Agency COVID-19 funding with no local match.

In his e-kilili newsletter, Sablan said that President Joe Biden announced last Wednesday that the 100% federal payments are good through April 1, 2022.

To date, FEMA has obligated $41.12 million to the CNMI for COVID-19 relief, all without any local match required, he said.

"This is the second time President Biden has extended the 100% federal share provision since he was sworn into office last January," Sablan said.

Last August, Biden announced that no local match will be required for emergency protective measure grants from FEMA in response to COVID-19.

The 100% federal funding was supposed to expire on Sept. 30, 2021. The extension runs through Dec. 31, 2021.

Grijalva, Huffman, Case, Sablan issue joint statement on IG audit of WPSFF

WASHINGTON, D.C.—House Natiral Resources Committee chair Raúl M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.), Water Oceans and Wildlife Subcommittee chair Jared Huffman (D-Calif.), Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawaii), and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-CNMI) issued the following joint statement regarding the recent audit of the Western Pacific Sustainable Fisheries Fund conducted by the Department of Commerce Office of the Inspector General.

The audit found that the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council and its subrecipients claimed questionable costs of more than $1.2 million in awards—40% of all costs it examined—and didn't obtain required approvals or have sufficient documentation.

"The results are deeply alarming. The Inspector General's audit is a necessary first step toward the transparency and accountability that is needed to ensure WESPAC is not wasting the taxpayers' money it is entrusted with," Grijalva said. "As damning as this report is, it raises more questions about WESPAC than it answers. Their financial activities should continue to be examined."

"The Western Pacific Council's management of the Western Pacific Sustainable Fisheries Fund Award has long been questionable, and this audit of the Fund paints an unflattering picture of WESPAC's financial activities, to say the least," said Huffman. "As chair of the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee, it is clear Congress must take action to improve oversight and management of WESPAC and ensure that government funds are being spent responsibly. On Tuesday, we are holding a hearing on my and Rep. Case's bill, the *Sustaining America's Fisheries for the Future Act,* which takes steps to address these issues by adding transparency and reporting requirements for the Fund."

"The Inspector General's report underscores the need for substantial reforms in the way that WESPAC does business. Our federal dollars should be spent on the critical mission of sustaining and conserving vital marine ecosystems, not on controversial awards and questionable and unsupported spending at the behest of council staff with potential conflicts of interest," said Case. "This report is just the beginning of our inquiry and response. We must act on the report's findings to prevent any further waste and abuse of government funds by WESPAC and potentially other regional fishery councils operating under the same rules."

"The Inspector General found $1.2 million in questionable expenditures by WESPAC and breaches of the rules on sole-source contracts and other financial controls. This all confirms the concerns that led Chair Grijalva, Reps. Huffman and Case, and me to request this in-depth audit of how WESPAC uses federal funds," said Sablan. "I look forward to the decision of NOAA's Grants Management Division on the appropriate next steps to recover any money that was improperly paid."

The WPSFF, administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, was established under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act and was intended to support conservation efforts in the U.S. Pacific territories and Hawaii. Funds are provided by NOAA to WESPAC, which carries out contracts and subawards for projects. However, concerns raised from oversight of NOAA led to the audit request by Grijalva, Huffman, Case and Sablan more than two years ago. ***(PR)***

RB Camacho to take hands-on approach as mayor

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If given the chance to serve as mayor of Saipan, Ramon Blas "RB" Camacho aims to use his platform to get out and engage with the community directly, be it in a community cleanup, the Neighborhood Watch program, and even in educating the community on the importance of agriculture.

In an interview with the three-time Saipan mayoral candidate last Tuesday, Camacho said his goal remains the same—to establish a connection with the community through a Neighborhood Watch program.

"My first move will be the Neighborhood Watch. That will be my first act in office—bring the community together," he said.

From there, Camacho said, he will branch out to personally visiting every village to tackle issues like village cleanups and other programs.

"I intend to visit every village in the community and I want to hold a lot of town hall meetings—that will be my first agenda in office. I will also tackle other issues like cleaning up junk in residences. I will take a hands-on approach. For example, I will set appointments with residents and discuss the junk on their property. Then, we can set up a time where me and my staff will come out to your residence and we will help you clear out the junk," he said.

In addition, Camacho intends to schedule village inspections to ensure that villages stay clean and also intends to establish an incentive program to motivate community members to continue to clean their villages.

"Then we will do village inspections to make sure junk and trash don't pile up again after we've helped cleared them out. I will take a hands-on approach because that's what our community needs. Then, down the line, when we're all satisfied with the cleanliness in our community, we can come up with incentives like an award for the cleanest residence, the cleanest village, the…village with the lowest crime rate," Camacho said.

In addition, he wants to educate the community on the importance of agriculture and showcase Saipan's local produce once tourists return.

"The role of mayor is about the community. Let's start educating our kids and occupy their time, involve them. Another thing is let's promote our own backyard garden. Let's teach our kids to start playing with the soil. Let's look at it this way: Why do tourists come to Saipan? They want to know and experience what the island is all about. …Lets display what the islands can provide like breadfruit and local banana, sweet potato, taro—that's what we need to showcase. That's really my goal when I become mayor," he said.

Saipan mayoral candidate Ramon Blas "RB" Camacho.
KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Guam gets fisheries pandemic relief

MANGILAO, Guam—In support of Guam's fisheries and the fishing community, the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources of the Department of Agriculture is mailing 465 relief checks totaling approximately $988,803 to local fishers as part of an initial batch of CARES Act Fisheries Relief funding, which supports commercial fishing and associated activities that have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

DAWR received the relief checks from the Pacific State Marine Fisheries Commission and distributed them to registered fishers based on select categories, including subsistence and subsistence with sales and commercial. Check amounts ranged from $1,600 to $39,000 and were determined based on these categories and documentation provided by fishers validating their commercial losses. Fishers who successfully registered and applied during this first enrollment period are advised to check their mailboxes. Applications received by fishers who successfully registered and applied for the second enrollment period are currently pending processing by PSMFC. The status of the second batch of relief checks may be found at relief.psmfc.org/guam-cares-act-information.

"Fishing has been a cornerstone of our culture for centuries and remains an integral part of life, providing a livelihood for many of our island's families. We haven't forgotten that even our humble fishers have suffered a loss in sales, so it is our hope that this funding reels in some relief for them and their businesses," said Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio in his capacity as acting governor. "We thank the Department of Agriculture and our federal partners for ensuring that our fishers receive this necessary financial assistance. We will continue supporting our community through these important initiatives, which also lends a boost to our local economy and helps grow our fishing industry."

For more information, contact fisheries@doag.guam.gov or call 671-735-0288/0294/3982. ***(PR)***

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Opinion

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Biden makes a trillion-dollar investment in America's future

Finally, "Infrastructure Week" is no longer a punchline. As President Joe Biden signed the $1.2 trillion bill into law Monday, he kicked off the biggest spending program in more than a decade to build and rebuild the nation's essential infrastructure.

Over the coming years, the U.S. will significantly ramp up construction related to roads, bridges, water systems, broadband, ports and the power grid. These are the kinds of bread-and-butter government projects that are vital for the nation's safety, well-being and economic strength. These investments will make a real impact on people's lives by helping keep the lights on during heat waves, by expanding public transit so people can get to work without a car and by giving students reliable internet access so they can do their schoolwork.

Certainly, the bill is not as far-reaching as Biden's initial $2.3 trillion proposal. And even that plan, while ambitious, was not enough to address the tremendous need. The U.S. has consistently underfunded infrastructure over the last half-century, and that's created a backlog of work to keep existing transportation, water and energy systems up to date.

Plus, the nation is facing the even more daunting job of preparing communities for the onslaught of climate change. From the wildfires to flooding to coastal erosion, extreme weather patterns are already taxing the nation's infrastructure. The U.S. has to address climate change on two fronts: Rebuilding communities to withstand the effects of climate change, while rapidly reducing the nation's reliance on fossil fuels to slow global warming to avoid greater devastation. All of that work will cost a lot of money.

Yet, despite the need, it was still a battle to pass the bill. Biden had to scale back his infrastructure vision to get bipartisan support—something that is far too rare in Washington, even for programs that have long been supported by Democrats and Republicans.

Biden's initial plan rightly recognized that the U.S. must also strengthen the infrastructure—including education, child care, housing and healthcare—that allows people to work, to invent and to adapt to a changing climate. But to appease Republicans and some Democrats, the social spending was removed and the bipartisan bill primarily funds conventional brick-and-mortar infrastructure. Much-needed housing, community and climate programs are, for now, still included in the Build Back Better Act, which is being negotiated in Congress.

For too long, the U.S. has been a nation resting on its laurels, too self-satisfied with past achievements to recognize the need to keep building toward a brighter future and the country is now paying the price in deferred maintenance. The infrastructure bill is an overdue reinvestment, but it should only be the first installment.

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See EDITORIAL on next page

IT WOULD REALLY BE SHOCKING IF SOMEONE ASSOCIATED WITH TRUMP DID FOLLOW THE LAW.
NEWS
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When politicians claim professors like me are the enemy, what are they really attacking?

By BENJAMIN CARTER HETT
Los Angeles Times

Benjamin Carter Hett is a professor of history at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, CUNY, and the author of The Death of Democracy *and* The Nazi Menace.

On Nov. 2, J.D. Vance, author of the bestselling "Hillbilly Elegy" and now candidate for the U.S. Senate from Ohio, gave a keynote speech at the National Conservatism Conference titled "The Universities Are the Enemy."

In the speech, he told his audience: "I think in this movement of national conservatism, what we need more than inspiration is wisdom. And there is a wisdom in what Richard Nixon said approximately 40, 50 years ago. He said, and I quote: 'The professors are the enemy.'"

Nixon actually said these words to his then-national security adviser, the Harvard professor Henry Kissinger. He added, in a professorial flourish, "write that on a blackboard 100 times and never forget it."

This hatred of professors and their universities seems to be a big deal for Vance. On his campaign website, under the heading "Protect Conservative Values," he complains that "hundreds of billions of American tax dollars" get sent to universities that "teach that America is an evil, racist nation." These universities "then train teachers who bring that indoctrination into our elementary and high schools." He doesn't want any tax dollars going to institutions that teach "critical race theory or radical gender ideology." Instead, he wants them to deliver "an honest, patriotic account of American history." Other sections of the website extol the glories of the 2nd Amendment, while ranting about immigrants and COVID-19 regulations.

Vance's complaint is at least as old as the trial of Socrates in the Athens of 399 BCE. Socrates was sentenced to death for teachings that supposedly corrupted the youth of Athens and mocked the city's gods. Vilifying professors has been the theme of a certain kind of politics ever since.

Ironically, the same Henry Kissinger who heard Nixon's 1972 rant about professors made his own academic reputation writing about Prince Klemens von Metternich, the top minister of the Austrian Empire from 1809 to 1848. Metternich was a conservative strongman, perhaps the Vladimir Putin of his day. He didn't like professors either.

In 1820, Metternich wrote that the main evil of his time was "presumption," his word for the habit of educated people to question authority. "Experience has no value for the presumptuous man; faith is nothing to him," he said. Ordinary working people, he said, did not fall prey to these illusions because they were too busy with the hard labor of their own lives. Not so the professors who were his target: the "real cosmopolitans ... men of letters, lawyers, and the individuals charged with public education."

Just like Vance, Metternich thought the only counterweight to such errors was to be found in "wisdom"—which meant accepting Metternich's authority and all conservative values with it.

The fascist movements of the 20th century were notoriously anti-intellectual and anti-professor. In a relatively unscripted moment in a 1938 speech, Adolf Hitler said he regretted that his regime still had some need for its "intellectual classes," otherwise, "one day we could, I don't know, exterminate them or something."

Hitler's propaganda minister, Joseph Goebbels, was irritated by academics' tendency to examine political statements for their truth value. But he concluded that "I do not believe that university professors make history."

Why is it that professors have always drawn the anger of authoritarians? Authoritarians themselves will always claim that academic activity is subversive, unpatriotic and immoral—and thus a serious threat to society. But let's be real for a moment. Goebbels actually had a point.

The great majority of scholarly publications are read by only a tiny handful of professional colleagues. Academics who somehow reach a broader public audience are usually highly untypical of their profession. As for our nefarious activity in the classroom: I can assure Vance that I could never indoctrinate any student into anything, even if I wanted to. I keep a file of amusing exam answers. To put it gently, students don't always listen. Any indoctrination I tried would surely backfire.

If Vance were to be honest about who he thinks his enemies really are, he would have to say minorities, immigrants and others who don't fit into his vision of American values. These are the people hurt by the kind of politics he advances. But it doesn't sound quite so good to say this out loud.

Professors, on the other hand, are a perfect target, and perfect scapegoats. The work they do is often obscure and mysterious for people outside the academy. They are easy to caricature as out of touch, or worse. Most importantly, they do not have the power or media reach to fight back.

Vance is right about one thing, though. So long as he pursues a politics of division, fear, hatred and mass death from COVID and guns, I will oppose him. I will probably be an ineffective enemy. But I will do my best.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Universal Garbage Collection will keep Rota beautiful and safer for its residents

TRASH TALK

By GARY SWORD
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Gary Sword is chairman of the Universal Garbage Collection Task Force. He is vice president of the KKMP radio station, one of the most popular and beloved stations in the Marianas and has extensive experience in power, water, waste water, and solid waste services. Sword serves as a member of the Domestic Policy Recovery Committee for the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers.

Last week, I took a trip to Rota and sat down with Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig to discuss his vision for Rota's solid waste collection and disposal. He shared that solid waste collection and disposal is a challenge, as there are no commercial trash collection services on the island. Families and businesses are tasked to bring their garbage to the landfill.

With the debris impact from Typhoon Mangkhut, the landfill is filling up faster than the residents expected. They will soon need to find new ground to open another landfill. The Rota Landfill is an open dumpsite that is managed by four of the mayor's dedicated staff members and three pieces of antiquated equipment.

Mayor Atalig shared that for the most part, people are good at bringing their garbage to the landfill, but some people still throw their garbage in the jungle or over a cliff into the ocean. His staff has been trained and deputized to issue citations for littering, but they are waiting for the Bureau of Environmental Quality to provide the citation books. A lot of Rota families don't have vehicles to bring the garbage to the dumpsite, so they depend on other family members to dump their trash.

Mayor Atalig also conveyed his growing concerns for the health and safety of the community. The threat of sickness and disease that emanate from rotting garbage, and its possible effects on their groundwater source are among the greatest of these. It is terrifying to know that the trash discarded into the ocean is being eaten by the same fish that our people consume. Ocean pollution is unsightly, but what we can't see is worse. Most of the garbage dumped in the ocean sits at the bottom, and we're unlikely to ever be able to clean it up.

Rota's residents are proud of their island and take great care in keeping it clean to the best of their abilities and resources. Mayor Atalig's office is looking into sourcing a garbage truck to pick up residential garbage to deter illegal dumping. After hearing that the Universal Garbage Collection Task Force will incorporate solid waste management for Rota, he was excited and welcomes any help they can get to resolve their trash issues.

Mayor Atalig added that his staff spends a lot of time picking up trash along the roadways and keeps visitor areas clean and beautiful. He said he hopes that one day Rota can have a universal garbage collection so that his staff can focus on other areas of need in the municipality.

All over the island, you can see signs that read "Na gatbo Luta," which means "Keep Rota beautiful." There's no better way to keep this island pristine than by helping them first establish a solid waste management system.

For more information about the Universal Garbage Collection initiative, visit the GCEA website at cnmieconomy.com. Engage with the UGC Task Force via email at gceacnmi@gmail.com.

The failure at Glasgow and what needs to happen next

By PETER KALMUS
Los Angeles Times

Peter Kalmus is a climate scientist and the author of Being the Change: Live Well and Spark a Climate Revolution. @ClimateHuman

The one thing the climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland, made clear is that human society remains in business-as-usual mode, with no meaningful curb on fossil fuel use. The soft pledges made at COP26 might have been acceptable decades ago, but not now.

The world needs to shift into climate emergency mode, and it needs to happen this year. To use a science metaphor, what we need is a phase transition—as when a saturated liquid crystallizes—in the social norms that translate into collective decisions. Incrementalism can no longer save us.

That so little emerged from COP26 despite the shocking climate events of this past summer—the heat dome in the Pacific Northwest, people drowning to death in basement apartments in New York, emerging climate famine in Madagascar, to name just a few—should be a catalyst for action by the global climate movement and the public at large.

The results of COP26 was really no surprise, given that the single biggest delegation present was the fossil fuel industry itself. In the three decades of U.N. climate meetings, beginning with the Earth Summit in 1992, the buildup of fossil fuel carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has roughly doubled and our peril has vastly increased. Yet no plan has emerged to stop the terrifying and irreversible destruction of Earth's life support systems.

Clearly, neither science, nor intensifying climate disaster, nor the many remarkably polite actions of activists have thus far moved world leaders—not even on the point of ending fossil fuel subsidies. Given the stakes, what do we do as citizens?

The magnitude of this failure should be seen in the context of the speed, intensity and irreversibility of climate and ecological breakdown. For me, as a climate scientist, watching COP26 conclude without commitments to end carbon dioxide emissions was like watching a group of firefighters standing around squabbling in front of burning houses with children inside. Turn on the hoses! Save the children trapped inside! The houses in question? They are yours and mine.

First, consider the speed of the climate unraveling. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change tells us that it is likely still physically possible (if not politically possible) to keep global heating under 1.5 degrees Celsius compared with preindustrial levels.

However, in each second ticking by, humanity dumps over 1,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, where it accumulates. This amounts to over 40 billion tonnes per year. According to IPCC estimates, humanity now has about 200 billion tonnes of additional "carbon budget" left for a 66% chance of staying below 1.5 degrees Celsius. At current rates of human emissions, we therefore have five years before crossing this threshold is likely locked in.

Now, consider the intensity of the change we're witnessing. The public has been led to believe that 1.5 degree Celsius of global heating is a "safe" level, but it is not. Many regions in the global south are already being hammered by climate and ecological breakdown. Climate scientists were caught off guard by the catastrophes of this summer; with current global warming at about 1.2 degrees Celsius, things are already quite a bit worse than we expected.

Finally, there's the issue of irreversibility. Unfortunately, where climate is concerned, what's done is done. Global heating cannot be reversed on human time scales; it can only be halted. That carbon building up in our atmosphere now? Much of it will still be there in the year 3000. Dozens of irreversible Earth system tipping points, such as the loss of the Amazon rainforest and a shift in global ocean circulations, loom darkly somewhere in the near future.

One good thing to come out of COP26 was the decision to revisit emissions reductions again in a year's time (as opposed to five years in the Paris agreement). This is the year for society to finally have its phase transition into emergency mode. Politely asking the ruling class to stop destroying the Earth hasn't worked. The movement must now bring in even more people, diversify its tactics, and force world leaders to take urgent action and rapidly ramp down the fossil fuel industry.

Unless COP26's failure is recognized as failure, there is no way to learn from it. Allowing global leaders to feel that what happened in Glasgow was acceptable—and spinning it as some sort of success—would be a disastrous mistake. It would give them further license to pander to the fossil fuel industry and fail again next year. At this late stage, until society transitions to emergency mode we will face ever greater consequences.

Build, don't just spend: Infrastructure investment is terrific provided it delivers effectively and efficiently

EDITORIAL

From Page 8

After all the speeches out on the cold White House South Lawn, at 4:21 Monday afternoon President Biden took but a few seconds to sign the bipartisan infrastructure bill into law. That brief moment, built on cooperation among senators from both parties, should have happened long ago. We don't just mean earlier this year, but in the last, horrible administration of the horrible Donald Trump or even before him.

Real investments in roads and bridges and ports and transit have been needed for many years, and it's something in which America once led the world. Now, we're the laggard with new competitors like China churning out high-speed rail and new airports while we plod along on the aging systems put in place by our distant predecessors.

But it's not only about just printing money in Washington and dropping it across the country. It must be used wisely and economically. Projects, from expanded broadband to upgraded water delivery and sewage disposal to those roads and bridges and rails, must be worthwhile. And crucially, they must stay in budget and on schedule.

Jobs are great and good jobs are greater and good union construction jobs are the greatest to many, especially to politicians running for reelection. But as we said before, there's a big difference between spending and building.

You can spend $1 million or $1 billion or $1 trillion to hire crews to dig a hole (a $1 trillion one would be very, very big), generating a payroll and getting those bulldozers bulldozing. You could then spend the same amount to hire the equivalent crews to fill it in. You've now produced a huge investment in construction jobs, but have no improved infrastructure allowing for economic growth and greater efficiencies in moving people or goods or ideas.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer on Monday touted the biggest boondoggle in the country, Gateway, now estimated by Amtrak at $33.7 billion. It's a lot of money to spend, even just the $14 billion zero-capacity Phase 1 being considered, but it fails the smart investment test.

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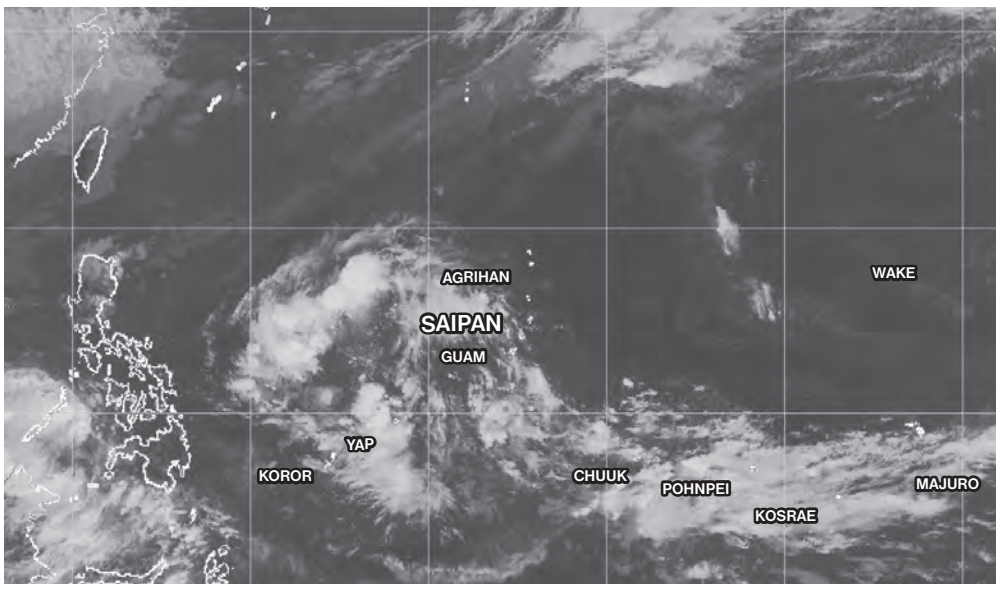
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
85° 77°	87° 78°	87° 78°	87° 78°	87° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:46 AM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows scattered to numerous showers moving through the Marianas waters. The Ipan buoy reveals combined seas of 5 to 7 feet, mainly composed of east swell with some wind waves on top.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:20 AM	5:43 PM
Saturday	6:21 AM	5:43 PM
Sunday	6:21 AM	5:43 PM
Monday	6:22 AM	5:43 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	5:09 AM	5:00 PM
Friday	-	5:57 AM	5:39 PM
Saturday	-	6:48 AM	6:21 PM
Sunday	-	7:39 AM	7:06 PM
Monday	-	8:31 AM	7:54 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Windy	70° / 54°
Beijing	Sunny	43° / 21°
Hong Kong	Showers	82° / 63°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	82° / 68°
London	Mostly Sunny	48° / 37°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	69° / 52°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	82° / 61°
Miami	Mostly Sunny	79° / 73°
New York	Sunny	51° / 38°
Osaka	Rain	55° / 41°
Paris	Cloudy	54° / 37°
Busan	Windy	43° / 28°
Rome	Sunny	64° / 43°
Salem	Sunny	68° / 48°
San Francisco	Sunny	59° / 45°
Seoul	Sunny	34° / 21°
Tokyo	Rain	61° / 43°
Washington, DC	Sunny	53° / 40°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:12 AM	Low Tide	-0.05
7:42 AM	High Tide	1.59
1:11 PM	Low Tide	0.82
6:32 PM	High Tide	1.72

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 28, 2021

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:20am	8:05am	2, 4, 6
UA117	9:50am	10:35am	1, 3, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:20am	9:50pm	2, 4, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	6
TW9308	3:20PM	8:00PM	4
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA116	5:30am	6:16am	2, 4, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:46am	1, 3, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:55pm	4:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	10:40pm	6:16am+1	5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:40pm	8:46am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	6:16am+1	1, 3 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:46am+1	4, 6, 7 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	6
TW9307	10:00AM	2:20PM	4

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-22-007

MANNED SECURITY GUARD SERVICES FOR CUC FACILITIES ON SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive bids from qualified firms to provide Manned Security Guard Services for various sites at CUC, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

Contractors must provide proof of "Indemnity Liability Insurance," specifically covering security workers assigned to CUC's compound. Coverage must be a minimum of $200,000.00. The Contractor shall agree to and indemnify and hold CUC harmless from and against all liability, loss, damage or injury, and all cost and expenses (including attorneys' fees and costs of any suit related thereto) suffered or incurred by the Cooperative, arising from or related to Contractor's negligent performance under the contract.

Proponents shall provide a certification signed by a principal of the company stating that the company is currently in full compliance with all applicable CNMI and Federal Labor Laws and has been for the past Five (5) years. Proponents shall submit a listing of all of its employees (US & Foreign) with corresponding job titles and a certification of good standing from the CNMI Department of Labor. Failure of the company to provide the certification is grounds to reject the entire Bid.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-22-007*, Security Guard Services", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST, Saipan Time) on November 29, 2021**. Late submissions of Bids will not be considered.

This Invitation for bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of Bid in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. All responses to this Invitation for bids should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the Proponent, awarded a contract.

All Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponents due to lack of information or understanding of the Bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a Bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST, Saipan Time) on November 24 , 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Richard Cano, CUC Power Generation Manager at email richard.cano@cucgov.org and John Mafnas, CUC Contracts officer via email address john.mafnas@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Technician, Senior at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22 – 027

Opening Date: November 18, 2021
Closing Date: December 2, 2021

POSITION TITLE:	**Trades Assistant: Mechanic**
DEPARTMENT:	**Power Generation**
LOCATION:	**Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA**
ANNUAL SALARY:	**$16,742.00 - $22,602.00 per annum, Non-Exempt**
CONTRACT:	**Not Contracted**
POSITION(S):	**Three (3)**

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Power Generation Manager or his/her designee. The Trades Assistant: Mechanic assists with the safe and efficient operation of all plant equipment and machinery including, but not limited to, incinerators, generators, operation of valves, plant production operations, and unloading of diesel fuel tank trucks to storage tanks.

Duties:

- Follows all safety and operations procedures during operations and maintenance activities.
- Monitoring Plant systems as assigned;
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection.
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used.
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete.
- Monitors equipment.
- Makes readings and collects data.
- Documents equipment readings.
- Prepares and submits data and work reports.
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily work activities.
- Assisting with equipment inspections, cleaning, corrosion control, and painting.
- Operating incinerators.
- Oil and water separator pump, servicing and preparing oil filters.
- Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing debris and housekeeping.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS. Training and knowledge in operations repair, and maintenance of power generating and/or industrial equipment/facilities desired but not required.

Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects of 45 pounds and over, climb ladders, reach above the shoulders, stand, sit, crawl and kneel for prolonged periods and perform repeated bending. Recognize color codes, operate cranes and motor vehicles. Work inside around machinery in operation; in varying degree of temperature in tight or cramped (confined) work spaces, at heights, on ladders or scaffolds, and on slippery or uneven walking surfaces in close proximity to high and low voltage circuits and climbs stairs frequently. Occasionally use solvents, de-greasing agents, or other chemical agents, and be assigned to protracted or irregular hours of work. Work in environments exposed to dust, oil, grease, constant or excessive noise, vibration, and smoke and gas fumes. Work closely with others and/or alone depending on assigned daily activities.
Must be available to work a 24/7 rotation shift to include weekends and holidays, may be on call for emergency response.
All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131
CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-22-004

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ENGINE LUBE OILS FOR POWER GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of engine lubricating oils for CUC Power Generation facilities on Saipan and Rota.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in via email to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-22-004, Supply & Delivery of Engine Lube Oils for Power Generation"* to the **CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building**, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 24, 2021**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 16, 2021**, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Richard Cano, Power Generation Manager via email, richard.cano@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-22-006

Fiber Optic Internet Connectivity for CUC's Communications & Data Storage Network

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced firms for the installation of a Fiber Optic Internet Connectivity for CUC's Communications & Data Storage Network in CUC Saipan, CUC Tinian and CUC Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one package.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies of your submission must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-RFP-22-006: Fiber Optic Internet Connectivity for CUC's Communications & Data Storage Network"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. on November 26, 2021**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. The Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 18, 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email, manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Patrick Reyes, CUC IT Analyst at patrick.reyes@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, CUC's Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

$15K cash bail set for three accused of burglarizing IPI warehouse

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Superior Court has imposed a $15,000 cash bail on each of the three men accused of burglarizing the Imperial Pacific International LLC warehouse in Chalan Piao.

Following three separate bail hearings for Manny Camacho Jr., 21, Matthew Duenas, 30, and Donivin Chargualaf, 24, Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan imposed a $15,000 cash bail for each of the three and remanded them back to Department of Corrections custody.

The judge ordered all three men to return to court to be arraigned on Nov. 29 at 10am and for their preliminary hearing on Nov. 24.

According to a press release from the Department of Public Safety, the department received a 911 call on Nov. 10, 2021, at about 3:39pm, reporting a possible burglary in in Chalan Piao. Police officers dispatched to the scene met with the staff of the warehouse who told police that the area had been burglarized and several items were missing. These included car parts, air-conditioning units, tools and tool boxes approximately worth $8,300, police said.

Two days later, on Nov. 12, 2021, based on tips called in, a possible suspect was identified as Camacho, who was brought in for questioning. Police said he admitted his involvement in the crime. Police also arrested Duenas and Chargulaf who also allegedly admitted to the robbery.

Camacho Jr.

Duenas

Chargulaf

Camacho was first cleared of COVID-19 infection at Kanoa Resort, before being transported to DOC in Susupe where he was booked and detained. On Nov. 13, 2021, NMI Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan signed and issued a Rule 5 for Camacho with bail set at $15,000.

On Nov. 15, 2021, Bogdan signed and issued an arrest warrant for both Duenas and Chargulaf for the charges of burglary and theft, with bail for each set at $15,000. That same afternoon, police executed both warrants and arrested the two. Both individuals allegedly admitted their involvement as well as other pending burglary cases. After the interview, both were transported to DOC after being cleared at Kanoa Resort.

The three were brought to court on separate occasion last Monday for their initial appearance and bail hearings before they were remanded to the custody of DOC.

Man wanted for alleged domestic violence

The CNMI Department of Public Safety is on the hunt for a man accused of beating up his girlfriend last Nov. 14, 2021. The boyfriend was identified as Alvander Pua.

CNMI Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan has issued a warrant for the arrest of Pua for the charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, domestic violence, and strangulation, with bail set at $25,000.

Pua

According to a DPS news release, police received a 911 call on Nov. 14, 2021, at about 3:39pm reporting a domestic violence complaint in Garapan, Saipan.

At the scene, officers met with the victim, where police observed a female victim with swollen eyes and dark bruising around both of them. The victim's face was reportedly swollen, and had redness and scratches, a swollen nose with both nostrils bleeding, blood on her upper lip, and redness around her neck.

When asked, the victim told police that Pua was responsible.

Medics arrived and transported the victim to the Commonwealth Health Center for further medical attention. Pua was not arrested as he had fled the scene.

A complaint and affidavit of probable cause in support of an arrest warrant was filed by police and later signed by Bogdan.

Anyone with information on Pua's whereabouts should contact the Criminal Bureau of Investigation at 664-9064, or 911 if you wish to remain anonymous they may call the CNMI Crime Stoppers Hotline at 234-7272. ***(PR)***

Man sought for info on ID of child sex assault victim

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is seeking the public's assistance with obtaining identifying information regarding an unknown male who may have critical information pertaining to the identity of a child victim in an ongoing sexual exploitation investigation.

Photographs and an informational poster depicting the unknown individual, known only as John Doe 45, are being disseminated to the public and can be found online at the FBI website at http://www.fbi.gov/wanted/ecap.

Initial video of the unidentified male, John Doe 45, shown with a child were first recorded by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in June 2020. The EXIF data embedded within the video files indicated that the files were produced between January 2019 and April 2019.

John Doe 45 is described as a white male with brown hair, a brown moustache, and a brown beard. He is heard speaking English in the video. Due to the age of the images, it is possible that the individual's appearance may have changed over the years.

Anyone with information to provide should submit a tip online at https://tips.fbi.gov/, or call the FBI's toll-free tip line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324). The public is reminded no charges have been filed in this case and the pictured individual is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

This individual is being sought as part of the FBI's Operation Rescue Me and Endangered Child Alert Program initiatives, both of which represent strategic partnerships between the FBI and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Operation Rescue Me focuses on utilizing clues obtained through in-depth image analysis to identify the child victims depicted in child exploitation material, while ECAP seeks national and international media exposure of unknown adults (referred to as John/Jane Does) who visibly display their faces and/or other distinguishing characteristics in association with child pornography images. ***(PR)***

Crimes Against Children

Seeking Information

UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL - JOHN DOE 45

Room Seen in Video

DETAILS

Law enforcement officials are seeking information which will lead to the identification of an unknown individual known as John Doe 45. It is believed that this individual may have critical information pertaining to the identity of an infant victim in a sexual exploitation investigation.

The video depicting John Doe 45 is believed to have been produced between January of 2019 and April of 2019.

John Doe 45 is described as a White male with brown hair, a mustache, and a beard. He is likely between the ages of 30 and 40 years old. John Doe 45 could be heard speaking English in the video.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Contact an ECAP Investigator

If you have any information concerning this case, please call the FBI's toll-free tip-line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324), contact a Crimes Against Children Investigator at your local FBI office, or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DCRM closed on Monday, Tuesday

The Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality would like to inform the public that the Division of Coastal Resources Management will be closed on Nov. 22 (Monday) and Nov. 23 (Tuesday) 2021, for a professional development workshop. As such, payments can be made at the CNMI Treasury Office.

Regular office hours will resume on Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2021. ***(PR)***

SHEFA application submission deadline

Deadline to submit spring 2022 application only for not h new and returning applicants for Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance is on Dec. 1, 2021 (Wednesday). No need to submit an application if you are an ongoing recipient. ***(PR)***

Ex-chief justice Dela Cruz to launch his book at JKPL

Former NMI Supreme Court chief justice Jose S. Dela Cruz will be launching his book, *The Fundamental Issues Affecting the Northern Mariana Islands*, this Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021, at 2pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Dela Cruz will also be signing copies of his book at the event.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP by/before Friday, Nov. 19, 2021, by contacting (670) 235-7315/7322/7323 (READ).

There is also a Zoom link available of the event at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88179656661?pwd=bGlvMEJSVEhWa1dJTjIxWkhxczd6QT0 9

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CURRENCY EXCHANGE SERVICES FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Project No.: CPA-RFP-001-21
CPA Concession No.: SCX-2021-01

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposals (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for proposals from firms, companies, and/or corporations for currency exchange services at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. This concession is for the exclusive right to offer currency exchange, travel insurance, and other related services as applicable, including, but not limited to, the sale and purchase of foreign currency banknotes, drafts, money transfer, travelers check, and any other travel related products that are not related products precluded by other concessionaire agreements in the Airport.

The RFP will be issued and available for pick-up beginning **October 07, 2021**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, at the Administration Office, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. CPA offices are closed on holidays. The RFP includes layouts and requirements. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and/or all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Prospective proposers will be required to pay a non-refundable administrative fee of $50.00 for costs associated with handling and consideration of the proposal. Payments are accepted in the form of cash, credit card, and certified cashier's checks made out to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Questions and/or clarification concerning this project shall be in writing and sent to the attention of the Executive Director through email at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com with copy to Joy Ann Tenorio at joy.tenorio@cnmiports.com no later than **October 25, 2021.**

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"RFP TECHNICAL SUBMISSION: CONFIDENTIAL; CONCESSION NO. SXC-2021-01."** One (1) original and three (3) copies of the technical proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time, November 18, 2021**, to the Authority Administration Section, Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee. Proposers that submit proposals deemed to be Sufficiently Acceptable pursuant to the terms of this RFP will be invited to submit Price Bids and will be notified of the time, date, and location for submittal of such Price Bids.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

10/04/21
Date

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: DPW22-ITB No.: 42200015

SUBMISSION DATE: December 21, 2021 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Renovation of Government Building 1359, Capitol Hill, Saipan"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **November 18, 2021** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **December 07, 2021**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the **Project Site Government Building 1359, Saipan**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **December 14, 2021** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ANTHONY A. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
Acting Director, Division of Procurement Services

CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 502607 CK Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-1615
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749
charity@chodsonlaw.com

Attorney for Petitioner Commonwealth Economic Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE ESTATE OF HERBERT AYUYU TAITINGFONG,	)	Civil Action No. 21-0304
	)	**NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE**
Deceased.	)	**TO CREDITORS**
	)	Date: Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021
	)	Time: 10:00 a.m.
	)	Judge: Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE HERBERT AYUYU TAITINGFONG, OR HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority formerly known as the Commonwealth Development Authority has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Herbert Ayuyu Taitingtong, the deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950. The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing. Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **CHARITY R. HODSON**, Attorney at Law, at the address above indicated.

Dated this 15th day of November, 2021.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

NMI student is named a CGRS fellow at Norwich U

NORTHFIELD, Vt.—Anhkiet Huynh, of Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands, who is majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering, was recently named a Center for Global Resilience and Security fellow at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont.

The Center for Global Resilience and Security is a Norwich University research center of excellence dedicated to the advancement of the interrelationships between human resilience and sense of security in the face of global challenges. CGRS is focused on challenges in the areas of climate change, water, energy, and infrastructure and their impact on resilience and security. CGRS will craft creative, innovative, and sustainable solutions for building resilient communities, through inter-disciplinary research and design collaboration.

Huynh

Students' tasks revolve around furthering research for the organization. Each student has their own topic to focus on that relates to an issue that is relevant in today's world. Some research topics include environmental security, climate misinformation and technologies, and improving the health of Vermont communities.

Huynh is researching energy resilience specifically focusing on renewable energy development for low-income families.

"Although I've only recently been added to the CGRS fellowship, I am heavily invested in the work I will put in. I intend to create an impact that will help others in situations that I, along with many others, have dealt it," Huynh said. "I would personally like to thank Paul Murphy, whom without his guidance, I wouldn't be seeking the opportunities I have today as aggressively as I would have without him."

Each student is tasked with researching in-depth information about their topic and finding creative solutions to those issues.

"The CGRS student fellows are such a vital and vibrant part of CGRS," CGRS associate director Dr. Kaitlin Thomas said. "I have found that their enthusiasm and curiosity—spanning such a wide variety of disciplines and topics—is so motivating to me in my role as their scholarly [adviser]. Their ideas are truly inspiring, and give me a renewed sense of confidence that the future is bright under their lead." ***(PR)***

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

WE, THE FAMILY OF OUR DEARLY BELOVED

†Rita Manglona Babauta

Give our praise to God and rejoice that our loved one now rests in the love and peace of His embrace.

The Song of Memory
When someone we love
passes on beyond life
In the world that we know
and is gone,
A beautiful sense of
their presence, like
music remembered by
heart, lingers on…
When someone we love
finds a wonderful
home in a world only
faith can reveal,
Our memories can be
like a song in the heart,
with the power
to comfort and heal.
(Author Unknown)

Words cannot adequately express our profound gratitude and sincere appreciation to all our friends and family for all the kind words of comfort and for taking time to join us in the Celebration of the Eucharist in honor of our beloved mother and grandmother, †Rita Manglona Babauta. Your prayers, love, support and condolences have helped us tremendously during this most difficult time, giving us courage and strength to accept the will of God no matter how painful and difficult.

Our beloved, †Rita, was welcomed home by our Lord on November 8, 2021. Our loved one, †Rita, lived a fulfilling and blessed life. Her grace and wisdom will be truly missed and instilled in our hearts. Her beautiful and warm spirit and energy we will hold dear to us. Her passing has affected us immensely but we are content knowing that she is with our Lord.

May each day bring us closer to God and be thankful for all that we are blessed with. As we go our separate ways, it is our fervent prayer that our Lord will continue to pour his grace and blessings upon us all the days of our lives.

Un Dangkulo Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghillisou,
Thank you very much,

Children and Families

Environment

Salty Skin Pacific collect trash during the Save our Beaches cleanup and tree planting event early this year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SALTY SKIN PACIFIC

More than a business, it's a movement for the environment

By IVA MAURIN
CORRESPONDENT

Salty Skin Pacific's latest release, a long-sleeve rash guard, has "Keep our oceans healthy" printed on the back.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Two years ago in August 2019, Joe Villacrusis and James Lee bested seven other entrepreneurs at the Pitchfest with an idea of an apparel line that would not just represent water sports enthusiasts and fishermen in the CNMI, but will also be the first clothing brand on island with sales fully dedicated to ocean conservation. Their company? *Salty Skin Pacific.*

Villacrusis said the idea came about after they noticed the increasing amount of pollution on the islands, especially in popular beaches and tourist sites. They were jogging along the shoreline from Kilili Beach to Sugar Dock one day and picking up trash along the way—called plogging—when they noticed the amount of trash that they had collected.

"We practically carried multiple bags of trash at the end of our jog. From there we invited other people to partake in picking up trash while they did their run. With the help of social media, we were able to influence others to do the same," he said in an interview. "We wanted to become influencers, advocates of our environment," he told *Saipan Tribune*. "We wanted to share with our community the issues that we felt were not being publicly addressed. So we created Salty Skin Pacific to help us create that awareness."

True enough, while in the line of selling merchandise, Salty Skin Pacific is more than a business but is a movement.

"Our main goal is to bring awareness and education. A lot of our profit goes to helping events that involve environmental stewardship. We try to get involved with community events that directly benefit our islands and our surrounding oceans," Villacrusis said.

Salty Skin Pacific sponsored 2020 Miss Northern Marianas Earth Maria Terlaje during her reign, assisting in some of her projects and community events, including her "Save our Beaches" cleanup and tree planting event early this year.

They have also been involved in many of environmental activities on island, whether organized by the government, non-profits, local businesses, and even schools and they are open to partnering with anybody for even more projects in the future.

'Keep our oceans healthy'

Salty Skin Pacific's latest release, a long-sleeve rash guard with a design that features turquoise ocean waves, has, right on the back of it, a fitting message: "Keep our oceans healthy."

Villacrusis said this message is not just about doing beach cleanups; it is also about advocating for more sustainable fishing practices, the protection of coral reefs, and the conservation of endangered species.

For the past three years, Salty Skin has consistently adopted beach sites on island, as part of the International Coastal Cleanup organized here in the CNMI by the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Division of Coastal Resources Management, with Mariana Islands Nature Alliance.

"[The] event is a great way for everyone to see the importance of living a sustainable lifestyle and cleaning up after ourselves. The one thing I like about the ICC is that the community, especially the youth become scientists for a few hours collecting data. The sheets provided logs down every piece of trash collected and how much they weigh," he said.

Villacrusis shared that they teamed up with Run Saipan and Saipan Community School for this year's ICC, gathering over 30 volunteers in a "running event" that helped collect trash from a turnaround point all the way to Ladder Beach.

"Salty Skin Pacific was able to provide raffle prizes for those who collected trash along their running path as an incentive. Some of these prizes were kindly donated by Latte Built Gym, Ina's Kitchen, MARPAC, and some apparel from Salty Skin Pacific," he added.

Aside from beach cleanups, Salty Skin Pacific also participates in tree planting activities, the latest of which they did at Micro Beach, as organized by Terlaje and Rep. Sheila Babauta (D-Saipan), with MINA and the CNMI Forestry providing assistance. A couple of years ago, they also planted trees at Obyan Beach, hoping to replace the ones destroyed by Super Typhoon Yutu.

"We wanted to make sure that there were enough trees to provide shades for our beach-goers in the future. But more importantly, planting trees near our shorelines can help prevent erosion. Because of climate change and the rising seas, trees play an important role in protecting our lands from sinking into the ocean."

'We all live off the ocean'

Salty Skin Pacific is a movement for the ocean, inviting the community to be stewards of the environment.

When asked why it is important for them to advocate for cleaner oceans, Villacrusis cited three reasons:

First, we all live off the ocean whether directly or indirectly—the ocean provides food, water, oxygen, even the transportation of goods.

"Our land and the environment around us directly affect the ocean. If we don't have a clean and healthy environment, this will affect the ocean and its ecosystem. Thus, limiting our supply of food, water, and oxygen."

Second: "We owe it to both our ancestors and our children in the future. Our ancestors left us an abundance of resources for us to thrive. If we can't take care of our environment, our children will have a hard time surviving."

Third, the CNMI is a tourist destination. "Marketing our islands as a beautiful place to visit can only be achieved through its clean and pristine surroundings. We want our visitors to have a wonderful experience and share their stories with others that our islands are beautiful and clean, and that we take care of it."

Villacrusis hopes that the CNMI can adopt something similar to other places like Palau that provides tourists with responsibilities while visiting the islands.

"If visitors see that we don't care for our islands' beauty, they won't care too," he said. "They need to be educated on these issues. They need to be made aware. We all can and will benefit from advocating for a greener environment and a healthier ocean in more ways than one."

Salty Skin Pacific's message is clear and simple—respect our land and ocean.

"We are all connected to the ocean and we all benefit from it. We cannot ignore the issues surrounding climate change, pollution, overfishing, coral reef damage. ...All our actions will either positively impact our environment or it could negatively affect it. We are in the business of preserving our islands and our oceans, and getting everyone on board."

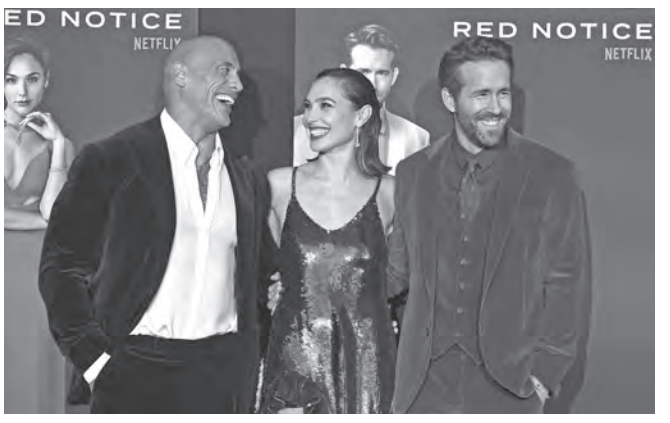
To learn more about Salty Skin Pacific and their advocacy, visit https://www.instagram.com/saltyskinpacific/.

Life & Style

'Red Notice,' 'Squid Game' top Netflix hours-watched metric

NEW YORK (AP)—Netflix on Tuesday rolled out a new website that measures its most-viewed films and series by the amount of hours users spend watching them. The results? People are watching "Squid Game" and the new action-adventure film "Red Notice" maybe even more than you would have guessed.

According to the streaming service's new metric, Rawson Marshall Thurber's "Red Notice," starring Dwayne Johnson, Gal Gadot and Ryan Reynolds, has been watched for 148.7 million hours globally since it debuted Nov. 12 on Netflix. In the past week, the most popular series was season three of "Narcos: Mexico," with 50.3 million hours viewed.



From left, cast members Dwayne Johnson, Gal Gadot and Ryan Reynolds arrive at the Los Angeles premiere of "Red Notice" at L.A. Live on Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021. JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION/AP

The first season of "Squid Game" ranks as Netflix's most-watched show or film ever, with 1.6 billion hours viewed.

Every Tuesday, Netflix will update the site "Top10 on Netflix" with the top 10 series and films on the streaming service. Until now, Netflix has been selective in sharing viewership data. It has occasionally shared views for hits, and it logs a top 10 list, without data, on the service, itself.

Though the hours-viewed metric replaces Netflix's previous "views," which could count just a few minutes of a movie or series.

Adele tops Swift in musician faceoff, nearly beats Oscars

NEW YORK (AP)—Adele attracted 10.3 million viewers to a busy Sunday night special where she debuted new music, facilitated a marriage proposal and dished with Oprah Winfrey about her divorce and workout routine.

The Nielsen company said the CBS show nearly had a bigger audience than April's Oscars ceremony and, when delayed viewers are eventually figured in, will likely exceed it.

Probably the two most popular musicians of the day both had weekend television spotlights to hawk new material. Taylor Swift's 10-minute performance of her song "All of Me" on "Saturday Night Live" reached 5.8 million viewers, and the clip has already been seen more than 2.5 million times on YouTube.

The Academy Awards reached 10.4 million viewers on the night it was televised in April, the audience increasing to 10.7 million adding people who saw it on tape within seven days.

Live events generally do poorly in delayed viewing, leading to CBS' confidence that Adele will eventually pass Oscar. CBS is likely to rerun the musician's special, too.

86-year-old woman named Israel's 'Miss Holocaust Survivor'

JERUSALEM (AP)—An 86-year-old woman who survived mass roundups and massacres of Jews as a child in Romania was crowned on Tuesday Israel's "Miss Holocaust Survivor."

Ten women in their 80s and 90s took part in the special pageant, sponsored by a local foundation and meant to bring members of Israel's rapidly dwindling population of Holocaust survivors some joy and recognition.

Salina Steinfeld, 86, is crowned 'Miss Holocaust Survivor' poses for a photo during a special beauty pageant honoring Holocaust survivors in Jerusalem, Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021. Ten contestants participated in the pageant, which was held for the first time since 2019 after being suspended due to the coronavirus pandemic. AP PHOTO/ODED BALILTY

The women were treated by professional makeup artists, hairdressers and stylists throughout the day before the evening competition. A number of local celebrities, including Miss Israel Noa Kochba, served as judges and provided entertainment to the crowd before Selina Steinfeld was crowned the winner.

According to the pageant organizers, Steinfeld moved to Israel in 1948, married and raised three children. She also has seven grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Times Square is back open on New Year's Eve—with vax proof

NEW YORK (AP)—Crowds will once again fill New York's Times Square this New Year's Eve, with proof of COVID-19 vaccination required for revelers who want to watch the ball drop in person, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced Tuesday.

"Yes, we are proud to announce that Times Square, wonderful celebration in Times Square, the ball drop, everything, coming back full strength the way we love it," de Blasio said at a virtual news briefing. "Hundreds of thousands of people there to celebrate. We can finally get back together again. It's going to be amazing."

Tom Harris, the president of the Times Square Alliance, said all spectators aged 5 and over will be asked to show proof of full vaccination. People who can't be vaccinated because of a disability will have to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test, he said.

The New Year's Eve celebration, perhaps the city's most iconic public gathering, was a socially distant affair during the height of the pandemic last year.

There were no packed crowds of giddy revelers, jammed together cheek-by-jowl. Instead there were mostly empty streets as officials told people to stay home and watch the ball drop on television. Entertainers including Jennifer Lopez performed behind police barricades to small groups made up of essential workers.

New book sheds light on life of future queen of Netherlands

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—People in the Netherlands can get to know their future queen a little better with the publication Tuesday of an authorized book about Princess Amalia three weeks before her 18th birthday.

The book delves into Amalia's school life, her occasional work at a beach bar, her love of horseback riding and her education plans. The princess recently graduated high school and is taking a gap year before going to a university. She's not yet sure what she will study but says she is interested in history, economics and law.

Amalia also reveals that she sometimes sees a mental health professional.

"I don't think it is a taboo. And it's not a problem to say that in public," the princess is quoted as saying in the book.

"Everybody talks about healthy eating and sport. And that is also very important," she says. "But how important is it to maintain your mental health? You can't have one without the other."

Claudia de Breij, a popular writer, singer and comedian, wrote the book following a series of meetings over the summer with Amalia, the oldest of King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima's three daughters and first in line to the Dutch throne.

Father's anger issues stem from head injury

DEAR ABBY: I'm a divorcee who has reconnected with a childhood neighbor, "Levi." He was physically assaulted as a teenager and badly injured. He has made almost a complete recovery, but has a metal plate in his skull and a traumatic brain injury. We have always been friends, and after my divorce, he asked me out.

It felt strange, akin to dating my brother, but he was persistent. We had fun, enjoyed parties and hanging out, and I got pregnant. Immediately I began to resent Levi. Neither of us was capable of raising children. Our 5-year-old now lives in chaos.

I didn't know Levi as well as I thought. His TBI is a much bigger problem than I realized. He cannot control his temper. He's quick to yell at our son, "Jaden," and me, and puts me down in front of him. We have to move to a different area of the home to give Levi space.

He truly cannot help it, but it's hard to tolerate the tantrums. Jaden loves his father anyway and never holds a grudge. Levi frequently apologizes, but the behavior never stops. He has never been physically abusive, but he's walking a fine line with the verbal nastiness. I'm constantly a referee to prevent escalation.

I love both Levi and my son. We are not married. Should I continue trying to make it work? Or should I run for the hills with Jaden? It's loud and often contentious.

SECOND-GUESSING MY LIFE

DEAR SECOND-GUESSING: Your love for Levi is beside the point. The longer Jaden is subjected to his father's irrational outbursts—whether they are aimed at you or at him—the more the boy will feel this is what a normal adult relationship is like. For your son's sake, you should separate. If Levi's abuse escalates from verbal to physical, THAT'S when you should "run for the hills."

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a mother of three adult kids. We are all comfortable financially. My eldest and youngest are successful. They work hard, and enjoy their homes and their lifestyle of entertaining and eating out.

My middle child lives far away and is happy to say he is not a capitalist. He works for nonprofits and barely makes ends meet. He went to college, but dropped out in his last semester. He has no health insurance. He drives a car, but has no insurance or driver's license. He clearly knows better, but insists that all these concerns of mine are "old world and overrated" and that I worry about "nothing."

I'm sick about the mistakes I've made with him, but I'm not sure what they were. I try to focus him on his license and insurance, but nothing gets done. What's the next best step?

HELICOPTER MOM IN MICHIGAN

DEAR HELICOPTER MOM: I am sorry you didn't mention what exactly your son does for these nonprofit organizations. Because they are "nonprofit" does not mean there is no money to pay their employees. Not only do staffers at nonprofits earn good wages, there are also benefits. The next best step for YOU would be to step back, and allow your adult son to conduct his life the way he has chosen and to accept the consequences of his irresponsibility.

■■■

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

BOY, WHAT A DAY!
I WENT TO SCHOOL, PLAYED OUTSIDE, AND DID MY HOMEWORK. I'M EXHAUSTED.
YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS NOW?
UH, 7:35.
IT'S MILLER TIME.
GET BACK HERE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

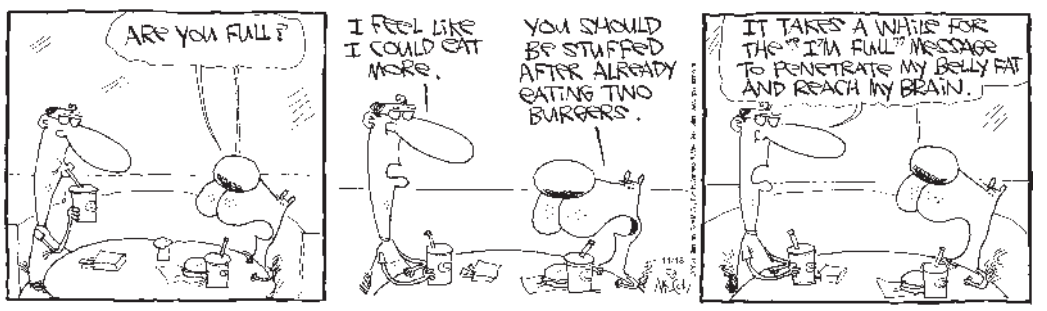
Adam@Home

By Bryan Basset

THERE IT IS! "THE WRETCHED TURNIP."
HA!
WOW. IT FEELS AMAZING TO SEE IT ON THE "NEW RELEASES" SHELF.
RIGHT BETWEEN "JOE ROGAN'S TOP MUFFIN RECIPES" AND "TIKTOK: THE BOOK."
SO PROUD.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


ARE YOU FULL?
I FEEL LIKE I COULD EAT MORE.
YOU SHOULD BE STUFFED AFTER ALREADY EATING TWO BURGERS.
IT TAKES A WHILE FOR THE "I'M FULL" MESSAGE TO PENETRATE MY BELLY FAT AND REACH MY BRAIN.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Coral formation
5 Lass
8 USMC ranks
12 Jai —
13 Poem of praise
14 Sulk
15 Sweet wine
16 PBS funder
17 Actress Swenson
18 Walk very quietly
20 Take in
22 Napoleon's title (Abbr.)
23 Gear tooth
24 Incite
27 Ritual cleansing
32 Hostel
33 — Paulo
34 Filch
35 Seldom
38 Voting group
39 Here, to Henri
40 Dog's warning
42 Some beers
45 Composer Gershwin
49 Earth Day subj.
50 In the past
52 Put on
53 Florence's river
54 Otto — Bismarck
55 Kvetches
56 Shoe fillers
57 Leading lady?
58 Lovers' quarrel

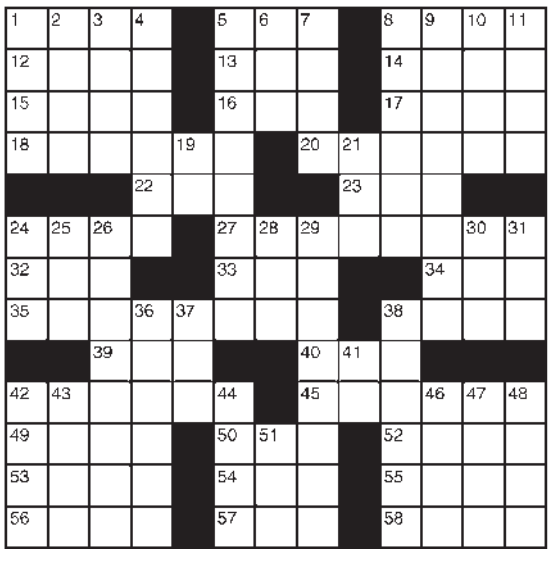
DOWN

1 Engrossed
2 Sci-fi race
3 Tombstone lawman
4 Like some sheets
5 Exceeded
6 Citrus drink
7 Pencil filler
8 Tap
9 2014 Affleck film
10 Harbor vessels
11 RBI, for one
19 Mantra
21 Hosp. area
24 Martini liquor
25 Artist Yoko
26 Sophocles tragedy
28 Sweetie, slangily
29 Like mammoths
30 Tic-tac-toe win
31 "The Voice" network
36 Wild cat
37 Tall tree
38 Cleveland squad
41 Concerning
42 Canadian flag emblem
43 Plot unit
44 Rescue
46 Harvest
47 Quite enthusiastic
48 Formerly, once
51 State VIP

Solution time: 24 mins.

N	I	T	S	■	S	R	S	■	M	O	E	T
A	S	F	C	■	R	A	Y	■	F	V	F	R
P	I	A	Y	D	O	W	N	■	A	F	R	O
S	A	L	T	Y	■	■	C	O	N	R	C	Y
■	■	■	H	E	A	D	■	A	S	P	■	■
D	U	P	E	■	H	E	S	I	■	L	A	G
U	R	L	■	L	O	B	E	S	■	A	L	E
N	I	A	■	I	N	R	E	■	H	Y	P	E
■	■	■	Y	R	S	■	A	S	T	I	■	■
P	O	T	A	T	O	■	■	S	P	E	N	T
I	K	I	D	■	■	R	O	L	E	P	L	A	Y
-	I	M	A	■	A	L	-	■	O	L	I	N
.	F	E	R	■	N	F	D	■	S	A	L	F

Yesterday's answer 11-18



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Damon Wayans Jr., 39; Nasim Pedrad, 40; Owen Wilson, 53; Oscar Nunez, 63.

Happy Birthday: Backing up when forward motion is necessary will prolong matters better off behind you. Focus on putting an end to situations that make you uncomfortable and embracing the activities and people who put you in your comfort zone. Life is about choices, and it's up to you to choose what's best for you. Personal gain is within reach. Your numbers are 8, 12, 20, 26, 31, 39, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Keep a close eye on what others do or say. Gather information, sort through your options, and make arrangements to help you put your plans in motion. Don't take a health risk to prove a point. Put safety first. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Make a physical change that will improve your health, state of mind and financial future. Size up a situation, and be prepared to do your own thing. Refuse to let anyone interfere in your personal or professional dealings. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Put your everything into your responsibilities. How you conduct business will influence your reputation, position and chance to advance. Refuse to let anyone take credit for your ideas or work. Invest in yourself, and promote what you have to offer. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Change can be good if you implement it the right way. Look for a unique way to use your attributes, and you will excel. Help from someone you least expect will encourage you to broaden your horizons and take on more responsibility. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Sit tight until you gather enough information to make a sound decision. An argument will leave you in a vulnerable position. Find a way to get along, and you will make progress. Opportunity will develop if you are willing to compromise. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Connect with people who have something to contribute, and you will find it easier to get things done on time. A networking function will help you understand what's trending and how best to use your skills to get ahead. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Set your sights on what you need to do, and get moving. Discipline will help you reach your destination and leave time to enjoy what you managed to accomplish. A better health regimen is encouraged and will put your mind at ease. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take care of business. Once you act, you will feel relief and get a clear picture of what you want to do next. Embrace life, and entertain the possibility of new beginnings. Love is featured and will improve your life. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll gain ground if you work alone. Don't give anyone a chance to interfere or meddle. Forge ahead with a destination in mind and a well-thought-out plan. Being disciplined and keeping things moderate and straightforward will help you excel. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Spend time fixing up your space. Feeling comfortable in your environment will ease stress and help you make better decisions regarding personal and professional matters. Romance is favored and will improve a meaningful relationship. Discuss plans and adjust your living arrangements. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Separate what's necessary from what isn't. Moderate what others do and say, and adjust your plans to fit your lifestyle. Following someone else will lead to disappointment. Do what's best for you and those you love. Self-discipline is encouraged. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Use your imagination to resolve issues that are standing in your way. A discussion with someone who can help will give you hope that change is heading your way. Stop dreaming and start doing. Include someone you love in your plans. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are powerful, impressive and unpredictable. You are outgoing and resourceful.

✪ ***star:*** *Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes.* ✪✪ ***stars:*** *You can accomplish, but don't rely on others.* ✪✪✪ ***stars:*** *Focus and you'll reach your goals.* ✪✪✪✪ ***stars:*** *Aim high; start new projects.* ✪✪✪✪✪ ***stars:*** *Nothing can stop you; go for gold.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7		4	1				
9			2		6		1	
					5			
3	6		1			7	9	
7								6
	8	1			7		4	5
			7					
	2		3		8			4
				5	4		6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	3	2	6	7	4	5	9	1
7	6	4	1	5	9	3	8	2
1	5	9	8	2	3	7	4	6
5	2	3	9	6	7	8	1	4
9	8	6	5	4	1	2	3	7
4	7	1	2	3	8	9	6	5
3	9	7	4	1	2	6	5	8
6	4	8	7	9	5	1	2	3
2	1	5	3	8	6	4	7	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/1

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

IT'S PRIMORDIAL — Solution: 7 letters

P	C	E	N	I	T	S	I	R	P	D	E	E	R	B
E	A	I	A	N	O	I	T	A	E	R	C	U	R	E
V	S	R	S	L	F	T	H	V	Ⓝ	N	I	A	G	G
I	N	R	A	S	I	O	E	T	S	Ⓡ	H	E	T	I
T	F	R	E	M	A	L	R	T	W	T	Ⓞ	C	H	N
I	U	N	E	V	O	L	V	E	D	O	A	Ⓑ	I	T
M	N	S	T	P	I	U	C	G	G	F	R	R	N	S
I	D	S	E	F	L	N	N	A	I	O	Y	G	T	E
R	A	D	E	L	A	R	U	T	A	N	N	A	A	I
P	M	B	A	S	I	C	R	N	N	F	G	E	C	L
R	E	E	V	I	T	A	N	I	I	E	I	Q	T	R
I	N	A	S	U	I	L	A	V	E	M	I	R	P	A
M	T	B	R	T	N	E	M	U	N	O	M	C	S	E
A	A	R	E	L	I	C	I	A	H	C	R	A	N	T
L	L	E	C	C	Y	C	L	E	X	I	S	T	E	A

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Ancient, Archaic, Artifact, Basic, Begin, Born, Breed, Cell, Classic, Creation, Cure, Cycle, Developed, Earliest, Early, Exist, First, Foregone, Fundamental, Gain, Growth, Heir, Hoary, Initial, Intact, Labs, Life, Monument, Native, Natural, Paramount, Past, Primal, Primeval, Primitive, Pristine, Relic, Solar, Stage, Start, Times, Unevolved, Universe, Vintage

Yesterday's Answer: Grapes

Treasuries 25, 26, 31 and 33 through 47 can be purchased online in time for the holidays at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

Curry scores 37, Durant season-low 19 as Warriors rout Nets

NEW YORK (AP)—Stephen Curry exited the court to one last chorus of "MVP! MVP!" chants, a sound that even he thought was weird.

It is, after all, Kevin Durant's home arena.

It was Curry's night, though.

Curry had 37 points, easily winning a matchup of the NBA's top two scorers when Durant had his worst night of the season, and the Golden State Warriors beat the Brooklyn Nets 117-99 on Tuesday.

A matchup with his former teammate had Curry revved up, as did the chance to bounce back from a loss in Charlotte on Sunday.

"So it's not the playoffs, but there's an intensity that you have to show up to beat a team like that," Curry said. "You thrive off that competitive atmosphere, knowing that there's a lot of talent on the floor."

Durant came in leading the league with 29.6 points per game, but he managed only 19, the first time all season he didn't hit 20. He shot 0 for 8 in the decisive third quarter and finished 6 for 19 after sitting the fourth.

"They got long defenders, guys that can help, so seeing bodies all the time when I had the ball, that's what great defenses do. And then some shots I wish I could've had back," Durant said. "I rushed a few once we got down 15, 20. I'm trying to get it back so fast you end up taking bad shots and rushed shots."

Curry almost caught his former teammate for the NBA scoring lead, making nine 3-pointers and raising his average to 28.7 per game. Durant dropped to 28.9.

Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry (30) passes away from Brooklyn Nets' Patty Mills (8) and Bruce Brown (1) during the first half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021 in New York. AP

Much of his struggles were due to the defense of Draymond Green, the former Defensive Player of the Year.

"I wanted that challenge," Green said, saying he was "pretty decent" with it.

He was way better than that.

"You can't do a better job defensively than what Draymond did tonight," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said.

Curry was 12 for 19 overall, with fans loudly cheering his long shots and giving him "MVP! MVP!" chants while Durant and the home team misfired.

Andrew Wiggins added 19 points for the Warriors, who improved their NBA-best record to 12-2.

James Harden scored 24 points for the Nets, who came home from a 5-1 road trip and fell flat in the nationally televised matchup. Durant won both meetings last season against the Warriors, his first playing for Brooklyn after leaving Golden State.

But this is a much improved Warriors team this season and showed it off during a dominant third quarter when they outscored the Nets 35-18 after a close first half.

Wiggins had the first two baskets of the third and Curry the next two, pushing a five-point lead to 71-58. Both had to go to the bench during the period with their fourth fouls, but the Warriors did some of their best work without them.

Golden State had an 18-5 run and held Brooklyn to just one field goal in a span of more than six minutes. Andre Iguodala beat the buzzer with a 3-pointer to end the quarter, making it 98-76.

Curry then made back-to-back shots from 30 feet early in the fourth to put it away.

Golden State shot 13 of 18 (72%) in the third, while the Nets were 5 for 22.

The game was played at a high level at the start in front of a decidedly split crowd that grew louder with each make as Curry hit his first four 3-pointers. The Nets made their first six shots of the game and led 34-31 after one, with both Durant and Curry having 12 points.

Wiggins made 3-pointers for the final two baskets of the half, one at the buzzer giving Golden State a 63-58 lead.

Jazz 120, 76ers 85

In Salt Lake City, Bojan Bogdanovic scored a season-high 27, including five 3-pointers, to power the Utah Jazz to a 120-85 rout of the depleted Philadelphia 76ers on Tuesday night.

Jordan Clarkson had 20 points and Rudy Gobert contributed 15 points, 17 rebounds and four blocks.

The Jazz had lost four of five games and needed their traditionally tough defense to return. Against this version of the 76ers, it wasn't clear how much of it had to do with Utah's guarding prowess or Philadelphia's ineptitude.

The 76ers shot 37% and only grabbed six offensive rebounds off all those misses. That allowed the Jazz to get into their sets early and produce easy looks.

Shake Milton scored 18 and Tyrese Maxey added 16 for the 76ers, who have lost five straight games for the first time since December 2017.

Joel Embiid and Matisse Thybulle remain in the league's health and safety protocols and were not with the team. Embiid has missed five games now and Thybulle has sat six games, which has corresponded to a significant dip in defensive efficiency.

Clippers 106, Spurs 92

In Los Angeles, Paul George scored 34 points, hitting 12 of 13 free throws, and the Los Angeles Clippers defeated the San Antonio Spurs 106-92 on Tuesday night.

Reggie Jackson overcame a poor start and finished with 21 points to help the Clippers bounce back after their seven-game winning streak ended on Sunday.

Dejounte Murray narrowly missed his second triple-double since Sunday, leading the Spurs with 26 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists.

Derrick White added 19 points and Drew Eubanks had 10 rebounds in the Spurs' third straight loss.

Rookie Brandon Boston Jr. scored the Clippers' first six points of the fourth before Eric Bledsoe's steal and layup pushed their lead to 18 points.

The young Spurs kept at it and cut their deficit to 91-82.

Jackson hit consecutive 3-pointers and George scored for a 99-82 lead.

Doug McDermott and Keldon Johnson made back-to-back 3-pointers that again drew the Spurs within nine. Boston scored the Clippers' final five points and finished with 13 to close out the game.

White's basket early in the third gave the Spurs their first lead since the opening quarter. The teams traded baskets before Thaddeus Young scored to tie it at 69-all.

Denver's Jokić learning how to stand up, not get tossed out

DENVER (AP)—Reigning NBA MVP Nikola Jokić is steadily learning what all great big men have had to figure out when it comes to physical play: how to show enough is enough without hurting the team.

The Denver Nuggets' center—nicknamed "Joker"—has been known to turn to officials over perceived no-calls down low, with a frustrated look as he stretches out his arms.

It's the life of an NBA big man. Just ask a Shaquille O'Neal, Dwight Howard or even a Zion Williamson.

"I've coached a lot of good big guys and I always think it's been sort of open season on big guys," said Stan Van Gundy, an analyst for TNT who coached the New Orleans Pelicans last season and encouraged Williamson to speak up on fouls. "I mean, we just allow people to beat the heck out of them. So big guys have to make the decision of, 'How much is enough?'"

The 7-foot Jokić reached his breaking point again last Monday, when he shoved Miami forward Markieff Morris in the back shortly after being elbowed in the ribs.

Jokic explained his emotions got the best of him.

"I felt bad, really bad," Jokić said afterward. "I felt I just needed to protect myself but on the other hand I'm not supposed to react that way, get thrown out of the game."

The fracas later led to a back-and-forth exchange on Twitter between the Jokić brothers, Strahinja and Nemanja, and Morris' twin, Marcus.

Last year in the playoffs the Jokic brothers defended him after the Denver big man felt an opponent had crossed the line. His siblings had to be held back in the stands when things got heated between Jokić and Phoenix guard Devin Booker during the playoffs last season. Jokić was ejected from that game.

It's a fine line to walk, especially for skilled big men.

"For great team players and great winners like Jokić, that is the calculus. He would probably love to stick up for himself every single night, but he puts the team ahead of himself," Van Gundy said. "Because of that he has to put up with a lot of crap. But at times, it's going to boil over and it's hard to fault those guys for drawing the line."

Nuggets coach Michael Malone has long lobbied for Jokić to get more calls than he does as one of the game's best players who regularly takes shots from opponents.

This recent episode was a side of Jokic that hasn't always been on display. The center known for his no-look passes, 3-pointers from the top of the key and tip-it-to-himself rebounds lost his cool when Morris fouled him. The 6-9 Morris stuck an elbow in his ribs at half-court and turned and walked away as if nothing had happened.

Morris had his back turned when Jokić retaliated, knocking him to the ground with a push that left Morris with a sore neck. It earned the 26-year-old Jokić an ejection, a one-game suspension and a clear message—he's only going to take so much.

"Look, man, sometimes when you're challenged, sometimes you have to let people know that that's not going to be tolerated," said Hall of Famer Dominique Wilkins, who's an analyst for the Atlanta Hawks telecasts. "You've got to have that dog mentality and that's what we had back in the day."

Back in the day, players could do that. In today's NBA, it comes with a steep price.

With Jokić off to another MVP-type season, posting big numbers with Jamal Murray (knee) sidelined, Denver can't avoid for him to be ejected and suspended (the Nuggets did beat Indiana in the game he sat out). A second-round pick in the 2014, Jokic is averaging 25.3 points, 13.7 rebounds and 6.3 assists through Sunday night.

The Serbian standout has two triple-doubles this season and 59 for his career, tying him with Larry Bird for eighth all-time. Jokić is currently fifth in the MVP odds, according to FanDuel Sportsbook, behind Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant, Luka Doncic and Giannis Antetokounmpo.

"I love him," said Portland coach Chauncey Billups, who grew up in Denver and played for the Nuggets over two different stints. "He plays the right way. He plays for everybody else on the floor. I think his spirit is infectious.

Van Gundy, the longtime NBA coach turned TNT analyst, has advice for anyone who may think they have a way to stop him: "You don't," Van Gundy cracked. "That's why the guy's the MVP of the league."

Wilkins compares Jokić to centers such as David Robinson, Hakeem Olajuwon, Moses Malone, Patrick Ewing and Artis Gilmore. Wilkins also added in Bill Russell and Wilt Chamberlain.

"Big-time centers who could change the game, not just with their scoring, but rebounding and passing and things of that nature," Wilkins said. "You just don't see centers like that in today's game.

"He's kind of an old-school player with a new-school twist."

Like those before him, Jokic is learning when and how to strike back—and stay in the game.

Russell Wilson wants to play 20-plus years and own NFL team

By ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Seattle Seahawks' Russell Wilson scrambles during the second half of an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021, in Green Bay, Wis. AP

Russell Wilson wants to play another decade and hopes to buy an NFL team after he retires.

The seven-time Pro Bowl quarterback is focused on helping the Seattle Seahawks (3-6) turn their season around but he also has big plans for the future.

"I definitely want to play for a long time, but I think once I'm done, I'd love to own an NFL football team and to be able to impact a city, a country and just bring people to the game of football," Wilson told The Associated Press for an upcoming episode of the AP Pro Football Podcast. "I'm very big into the business side of things and just sports in general. I love winning. I love the process of winning. So hopefully I can bring that culture to a team and organization."

Wilson is already a minority owner in Seattle's Major League Soccer franchise, the Sounders.

Wilson, who turns 33 on Nov. 29, has many interests away from football, including storytelling. Along with his wife, Ciara, he founded "Why Not You Productions" and is an executive producer for a new film called " National Champions " that explores college athletes being paid.

In the movie, the star quarterback asks both teams to boycott the championship game to protest for fair compensation, equality, and respect for student athletes.

"I'm super excited about 'National Champions' and how it explores the idea of the business of college sports and that it generates billions of dollars for these universities and brands and these television networks, and it's all predicated on the underlying thought of these kids aren't getting paid for it," Wilson said.

Wilson also makes a cameo in the film to support the main character's stance.

"I also actively support it in real life," Wilson said. "I think that college athletes should be compensated."

The trailer for "National Champions" launches Tuesday and the movie will be released on Dec. 10. Director Ric Roman Waugh said Wilson played an important role in ensuring the story is presented from a student athlete's perspective.

"Russ was not only candid about his own journey but shared many of his peers' experiences who weren't as fortunate to make the NFL, especially at his level," Waugh said. "His presence as our executive producer, and on screen, gave confidence to so many others to speak up and help us shape the argument on both sides of this debate."

Wilson returned to the field on Sunday after a severe finger injury forced him to miss games for the first time in his 10 seasons in the league. He completed 20 of 40 passes for 161 yards and two interceptions in Seattle's 17-0 loss at Green Bay. It was the first time the Seahawks were shut out in Wilson's 150 regular-season starts.

Wilson sat out three games after surgery on the middle finger of his throwing hand, and rehabbed 19-20 hours some days to return several weeks ahead of the original schedule. Being forced to watch from the sideline reinforced his love for the game.

"I knew I was wildly crazy about the game, but I'm ridiculously obsessed with it," he said. "That's why I want to play 20-plus years. I think the other part that you learn about yourself is to have patience. At the same time, you have to have drive. I think that's such a critical part. The third thing is (having) unrelenting confidence. You don't want to mistake that with arrogance. It's strictly confidence in what you do and how you do it and you've done it before, and we'll do it again and with great faith, all things are possible, and that's really what's been very evident to me in my journey."

Washington confirms Chase Young's injury is season-ending

By STEPHEN WHYNO
AP SPORTS WRITER

Washington Football Team defensive end Chase Young sits in the bench area with ice on his leg during the second half of an NFL football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021, in Landover, Md. AP

Chase Young will not play the rest of this season after injuring his right leg and is scheduled to undergo surgery.

Washington coach Ron Rivera confirmed the prognosis for Young on Monday in the wake of the reigning Defensive Rookie of the Year going down during the first half of an upset of defending Super Bowl champion Tampa Bay.

Rivera did not reveal whether Young tore the ACL in his right knee and did not specify what the surgery is for. Washington said Sunday that Young left the game with a knee injury, and Rivera said it was possibly an ACL tear.

The 2020 No. 2 pick finishes his second NFL season with 1 1/2 sacks. Rookie Shaka Toney is among the pass rushers who will fill in for Young at Carolina and the rest of the year.

"We're going to rely on some young guys to step up and get opportunities," Rivera said.

Young got hurt Sunday while trying to get past left tackle Donovan Smith in order to pressure Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady. He ended up on the grass, wincing and writhing around on the ground for a bit, all the while keeping his right leg straight.

After Young was checked by team trainers, a cart was driven out onto the field. But Young declined to get on and be driven off, instead motioning for teammate Brandon Scherff to give him a hand to help stand up.

Young then headed toward the locker room, draping his arms on the shoulders of two people for support while he limped off. He gave teammates a speech of encouragement at halftime and returned to the sideline on crutches later.

WHAT'S WORKING

Washington's defense shined with and without Young against Brady and the Buccaneers, pressuring the 44-year-old quarterback plenty and intercepting him twice. Third-down defense, which was the unit's worst category during the first few games of the season, was much better, holding Tampa Bay to a 40% conversion rate.

"We eliminated the stupid mistakes," defensive tackle Jonathan Allen said. "We made them drive the length of the field and not go over the top on us. This is what happens when you do things the right way. But what separates the good teams from the bad teams is being able to do this on a weekly basis."

The offense is clicking, too, with quarterback Taylor Heinicke showing off some of the chemistry he has developed with the receivers. Heinicke isn't perfect, but the clock-killing, 19-play, 80-yard drive over 10:26 showed how he could manage a situation like a veteran and Washington's ability to run the ball.

"One of the things I was really pleased with was that we were able to run the ball when we knew they knew we had to run the ball," Rivera said. "That was big."

WHAT NEEDS HELP

Red zone offense is still a bit of a concern after settling for two field goals from new kicker Joey Slye. Washington benefitted from a pass interference penalty on the undisciplined Buccaneers that set up an 1-yard touchdown run by Antonio Gibson, but the offense will still want to work on getting into the end zone consistently beginning Sunday at Carolina.

STOCK UP

Allen continues to be Washington's best defensive player. He leads the team with six sacks and is justifying every penny of the $72 million, four-year extension he signed on the eve of training camp.

STOCK DOWN

Cornerback William Jackson III took an unnecessary facemask penalty on the final play of the second quarter Sunday, allowing Tampa Bay to get a field goal on an attempt that never should have happened. He did pick off Brady on a ball that tipped off Bucs receiver Jaelon Darden's hands, but the big-money free agent addition is still working to find consistency in defensive coordinator Jack Del Rio's system.

INJURED

Beyond Young and the absence of fellow pass rusher Montez Sweat, Washington's other new injury is to tight end Ricky Seals-Jones, who Rivera called day to day with a right hip injury. Rookie right tackle Sam Cosmi was in uniform against the Buccaneers after getting cleared from an ankle injury but did not play.

KEY NUMBER

1991—The previous time Washington put together a drive of 19-plus plays as it did Sunday came 30 years ago, on the way to the franchise's third and most recent Super Bowl title.

NEXT STEPS

Prepare for Cam Newton and the Panthers this weekend in Rivera's return to Carolina. The Panthers are 2½-point favorites, according to FanDuel Sportsbook, after blowing out Arizona 34-10.

Krishnan: Rotary golf classic almost cancelled

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Now it can be told. There wasn't supposed to be a Rotary Goodwill Golf Classic Tournament last Saturday at the Coral Ocean Resort due to the recent rise in positive COVID-19 cases in the community.

"I almost cancelled the event due to the spike of COVID-19 in the community and also Coral Ocean Resort had their travel bubble in place that started on Oct. 28," said tournament coordinator and 2020 Rotarian of the Year Das Krishnan.

He said because Coral Ocean Resort was hosting tourists from the CNMI's travel bubble with Korea he had to move the Rotary Goodwill Golf Classic Tournament banquet to Saipan World Resort in the 11th hour.

But all's well that ends well as the Crowne Plaza Resort F&B director said a total of 122 players participated for this event and more importantly the tournament raised $7,000, which will be used to fund the Rotary Club of Saipan's many community projects.

Rotary Goodwill Golf Classic Tournament optional play winners pose for a photo with Rotary Club of Saipan officials led by president Ivan Ilmov, fourth from right. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Krishnan added that holding a golf tournament during a pandemic was not a fun job. "It is hard because people are still scared to participate in a crowd and sharing a cart with another person."

In behalf of the local Rotary Club, he also congratulated all the winners of the tournament as well as thanked all the sponsors, among them are Tan Siu Foundation, Triple J Motors, Joeten Motors, Equitable Insurance, USA Fanter Corp., Atkins Kroll, Marianas Visitors Authority, *Marianas Variety*, RNV Construction, Power 99, KKMP radio station, MARPAC, Pacific Trading Co., Marianas Coffee, and Coldwell Energy.

Other than the medal play winners—Harry Nakamura (championship flight), Joseph Muña (A flight), Darion Jones (B flight), Bartley Jackson (C flight), Nick Sablan (senior flight), and Zhi Min Jin (women's flight)—the tournament also awarded cash prizes to optional play winners during its awards banquet.

The closest to the pin winners were Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho after his ball stopped 63 inches from the lip of hole No. 3. Zhi Yun Li won in hole No. 7 after his approach shot came within 103 inches. Joseph Muna was without peer in hole No. 12 with his ball landing 39 inches from the flag. Nick Sablan took the win after the senior flight winner's ball came within 56 inches of hole No. 14.

In the most accurate drive, Joey "Kazu" Dela Cruz outclubbed everyone in hole No. 6, while Tars Olopai brought the lumber in hole No. 17.

Virtual ASICS World Ekiden 2021 Relay due on Nov. 22

CNMI runners interested in joining the ASICS World Ekiden 2021 have until Nov. 22 to complete the virtual marathon relay event.

Northern Marianas Athletics, which received an email invitation from World Athletes to promote ASICS World Ekiden 2021, said the race can be done by six runners (maximum) and they must be at least 16 years old. They can run separately or in a group from Nov. 10 to 22 with each runner covering between 5 kilometers to 10K distance to complete the 42K required distance. Times can be tracked and recorded via the ASICS Runkeeper or through Apple Watch, Garmin or Fitbit. For detailed instructions on time tracking and recording, visit raceroster.com/events/2021/48007/asics-world-ekiden-2021.

Teams that will complete the relay will have a chance to win a trip to the World Athletics Championships 2022 in Oregon in July. World Athletics will randomly select one winner each from Oceania and five other areas. Winners will be announced on Dec. 1. ***(PR)***

BOLA

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move ahead with the Nov. 20 reschedule and provide our village residents the much-needed outdoor activities, the NMIBF board decided that the community's safety is and will always be our priority. We will be working with children and we share the same concern that their parents have at this timeline so we will go ahead with the program once it is safe to do so," Lee said.

The program is free and will be offered to children in the 12 years old and below age group with the first seven sessions to cater to 10 villages. From San Antonio, the NMIBF and its volunteers will bring "Bola" to Garapan Basketball Court on Dec. 11 for Garapan residents; to Civic Center Basketball Court on Dec. 18 for Susupe; Kagman Community Center Court on Jan. 8, 2022 for Kagman; Chinatown Basketball Court on Jan. 15 for Chinatown; San Vicente Basketball Court on Jan. 22, 2022 for Dandan and San Vicente; and As Matuis Basketball Court on Jan. 29, 2022 for Tanapan and San Roque.

Each session will run from 4pm to 6pm with NMIBF officials and volunteers teaching participants skills and values on and off the court and engaging them in fun activities that also promote health and wellness. The NMIBF will also bring "Bola" in other villages on Saipan for the next leg and will plan separate sessions, too for Rota and Tinian.

As a culmination event of the first leg of "Bola," the NMIBF will host the Inter-Village Mini Basketball Games on Feb. 5, 2022 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Registration is now open with sign up forms available at the youth centers in different villages. Registration and waiver forms can also be obtained by emailing nmibf.bola@gmail.com.

The NMIBF is holding "Bola" in partnership with the Office of the Governor, Saipan Mayor's Office, the Division of Youth Services, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, DCCA's Sports and Recs, and the Office of Youth Affairs. The NMIBF has also reached out to other government and private entities, government leaders, and other stakeholders and has received positive response that will definitely boost the village outreach program. ***(PR)***

MRA

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us and we don't have to take away from other equipment [needed] by the community. We can use our own equipment at the CowTown Raceway Park," he said.

Cepeda said the skid-steer loader will help MRA in moving the dirt around the raceway park.

MRA vice president Cuki Alvarez jokingly said he can't wait to break-in the skid-steer loader by performing jumps at the track.

"I was telling everybody that this was going to be my new four-wheeler. This is going to be a big help now that it's going to be available anytime we need it we can do constant maintenance as opposed to one big maintenance every one of two months. Although the government always helps us before each of our races, now that we have access to this we can just hop on it touch up here and there and it's so much easier and safer for the kids," he said.

DPW-Division of Roads and Grounds director Mike Borja congratulated MRA for their new skid-steer loader, but added that since his staff can still use it then it's still a nice addition to the Roads and Grounds' fleet of equipment.

From left, Marianas Racing Association board member and grounds facilitator Henry Camacho, board member and local and international affairs liaison officer Ray Yumul, president Charles Cepeda (inside the skid-steer loader), board member, track marshal, and race coordinator Bridget Camacho, and board member and scorekeeper Vanessa Camacho. MARK RABAGO

"Every time you receive a new equipment you always have a happy face. You can do a lot of extra work and we've been assisting MRA since its inception now that we have more equipment we can do more. Thank you also to the governor for his effort to acquire this equipment," he said.

Torres added that future plans include constructing a drag racing strip next to the MRA facility at CowTown.

"Overall, the ultimate goal of MRA is to have a good irrigation system and state-of-the-art bleachers. We're also working with the federation of racing so hopefully we can have another lot for the drag race in cooperation with MRA. Take it out of the streets!"

Cepeda again thanked Torres for the skid-steer loader but then added that MRA has other needed items in its checklist.

"An excavator is also something we've also been requesting. It would assist in building the jumps much better and packing," he said.

Also attending the turnover ceremony were MRA board member and grounds facilitator Henry Camacho, board member and local and international affairs liaison officer Ray Yumul, board member, track marshal, and race coordinator Bridget Camacho, and board member and scorekeeper Vanessa Camacho. Secretary Eleanor Cepeda and treasurer Dave Burger also make up the MRA board member.

SHIMIZU

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okura and June Yu before capturing the title with a 7-6 (3), 7-5 (5) win over Minseong Kim and Jayden Lim.

Tang said they weren't really expecting to win the division because the draw was extraordinarily tough to begin with.

"Hye Jin and Serin gave us a lot of trouble. They were extremely consistent and were smart with the plays," said the 14-year-old ninth grader at Saipan Southern High School

The 15-year-old Shimizu, a sophomore at Marianas High School, said the boys 16-and-under doubles was very competitive.

"It was a tough tournament. I'm glad me and Simon won. Definitely not an easy draw [and] me and Simon had the most trouble against the girls, Serin and Hye Jin, but luckily we pulled though," he said.

Both Tang and Shimizu dedicated their victory to their loved ones.

"I would like to thank my family for supporting me through everything," said Tang.

"I want to thank my family," said Shimizu.

In the boys 14-and-under doubles, Henry Choi and Nason Wessel took the plum after defeating Yutaka Kadokura and Si Woo Lee in the finals, 6-0, 6-3.

Choi and Wessel advanced to the finals after shutting out Taher Shakir and Stephen Yeom, 6-0, 6-0, in the semis following a bye in the first round. Kadokura and Lee had a tougher road to the championship round as they barely beat Ki Won Lee and Henry Yeon in the semis, 7-6 (3), 6-1. They also got a bye in the opening round.

In the girls 14-and-under doubles, Hannah Chae and Isa Nishitani reigned supreme after topping a three-team field. They won against Irin Chung and Savita Sikkel in their first game then disposed of Anne Lee and Lina Tsukagoshi in their last, 6-4, 6-2.

The 2021 TanHoldings Tennis Classic continues this weekend with the 18-and-over players finally seeing action at the AMP tennis courts.

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Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, sixth from left, poses with Marianas Racing Association officials led by president Charles Cepeda, fourth from left, and Division of Roads and Grounds director Mike Borja, third from left, after personally turning over a $140,000 John Deere skid-steer loader to the motocross group. MARK RABAGO

MRA gets 'new toy' from ARPA money

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Marianas Racing Association welcomed a "new toy" after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres personally turned over a $140,000 John Deere skid-steer loader to the group last Monday at the Department of Public Works' Division of Roads and Grounds office in Lower Base.

Torres said the skid-steer loader is sourced from American Rescue Plan Act money and will be the first of many more equipment that his administration plans to turn over to the motocross association.

"We have an agreement to have MRA use the equipment as much as they need. If it's not needed then DPW will also utilize it. We also have DPW do the maintenance on it and have a strong partnership. There would be other equipment coming in to assist MRA as well and DPW," he said.

MRA president Charles Cepeda thanked Torres and DPW for the turnover of the skid-steer loader.

"They've been assisting us throughout this year and now that we have what we can call our 'own' equipment with the help of the Governor's Office and ARPA, it's a lot easier for

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Shimizu, Tang win B16 doubles

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Cody Shimizu and Simon Tang held off a challenge from the girls this time to win the boys 16-and-under doubles division of 2021 TanHoldings Tennis Classic last weekend at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Shimizu and Tang finished with a 3-0 win-loss record in the round-robin tournament. They started things off with a hard-earned 7-6 (3), 7-5 (5) victory over boys 16-and-under champion Hye Jin Elliot and runner-up Serin Chung.

They got win No. 2 via walkover against Wataru Kad-

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Cody Shimizu, left, and Simon Tang won the boys 16-and-under doubles division of 2021 TanHoldings Tennis Classic last weekend at the American Memorial Park tennis courts. MARK RABAGO

Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation president James Lee explains the components of "Bola," a Mini Basketball Village Outreach Program, to representatives of the Office of the Governor, Saipan Mayor's Office, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, DCCA's Sports and Recreation, and the Office of Youth Affairs during a meeting at the San Vicente Youth Center last month. "Bola" has been rescheduled to start on Dec. 4 at the San Antonio Basketball Court. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'Bola' reset for Dec. 4 at San Antonio court

The Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation has announced the new schedule for "Bola" with the Mini Basketball Village Outreach Program set to start on Dec. 4 at the San Antonio Basketball Court.

NMIBF president James Lee said that "Bola" has been pushed back to next month in response to the community's concern on having public events amid the presence of community COVID-19 cases. "Bola," which is also presented by FIBA Oceania and FIBA Foundation, was originally set to kick off on Nov. 6, but the start date was moved to Nov. 20 and then to Dec. 4 as safety measure against the pandemic.

"As much as we want to

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